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13 March 1985

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA REPORT

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ANGOLA

DOS SANTOS SPEECH AT MPLA CONFERENCE OPENING HIGHLIGHTED

Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English 2 Feb 85 p 16

[Text]

LUANDA: The Angolan President in a recent speech at the opening session of the First National Conference of the MPLA, struck a tone of harsh reproach when he referred to South Africa.

President dos Santos said that the serious and constructive new peace proposals presented by his government had met with what he called an arrogant response on the part of South Africa.

He accused South Africa of having made unacceptable demands which, he said, were contrary to the ethics of international relations.

President dos Santos accused South Africa of being responsible for maintaining the present climate of tension in the frontier region of South West Africa and Angola.

He imputed South Africa of 'still banking' on eliminating the legitimate governments of frontline countries in order 'to put its own puppets in power'.

However he did not dismiss future efforts on the part of his government to find a solution for the tension in conjunction with South Africa.

He said Luanda's policy would continue to be open to sincere and constructive dialogue with the United States and the South African Governments in seeking what he called a just solution to the problems that were concerning all of those in southern Africa.

Obviously, he said, such a dialogue could only be fruitful if there existed good sense, realism and the will to take serious decisions to preserve peace, stability and the independence of the peoples of the region with no interference in one other's internal affairs.

He accused South Africa of what he called premeditated inability of compliance with what was stipulated in the *Nkomati Accord*.

After accusing South Africa of a number of things, President dos Santos referred to the case of Angola and made the observation that South Africa persisted to this day with the occupation of part of Angola, despite, said the President, the undertaking which

were entered into at Lusaka. He said there was no valid reason for South Africa to justify what he called an act of continued aggression. He could only conclude, said President dos Santos, that the South African Government wished to use the hope of peace that was created merely to break out of its international isolation and to ensure the survival of the apartheid system.

He reaffirmed Luanda's diplomacy in central Africa as geared to consolidating the climate of understanding and good neighbourliness in order to maintain relative security and stability on the northern border and to seek a lasting solution to the problem of South West Africa independence based on United Nations Security Council Resolution 435.

In his address the President made no secret of it that the enemies of the MPLA had stepped up their attempts to destabilise the country. He accused UNITA of being unable to carry out on its own war acts and made the accusation that as a result the South Africa Army had to intervene directly in the theatre of military operations. He cited what had happened at Cangamba as an example. He admitted partial destruction of the Lomáum hydro-electric dam and the placing of limpet mines on ships in the port of Angola and the attacks of fuel depots in Lobito as having been carried out by UNITA but added that UNITA in itself was incapable of committing such acts.

Referring to the Cuban troops in his country he denied that Cuba was receiving payment from the Angolan people for these troops. President dos Santos stated that Russia was still the main supplier of weapons and military equipment and he said that cooperation between his country and Russia was on the increase. He said that Soviet specialists had made an inestimable contribution to the building up of the Angolan forces.

He said that it was on the basis of Angola's foreign policy aimed at safeguarding the independence of his country that there had been diplomatic initiative to normalise Angola's relations with Senegal and China.

ANGOLA

UK PAPER DISCUSSES IRON FIST WARFARE EXERCISE IN OPERATIONAL AREA

Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English 2 Feb 85 p 16

[Text]

LONDON: In a report the Daily Telegraph said that the recently concluded warfare exercise in the northern region of South West Africa, code-named Iron Fist, was an exercise to serve notice on Angola that South Africa's military patience is running out with the ineffectiveness of the Lusaka Agreement on non-aggression.

The report, by Christopher Munnion, described the exercise as a two-day conventional warfare exercise and the London paper said that it was the largest held in the operational area near the Angolan border with South West Africa.

The Telegraph stated in its report that the South Africans maintain a conventional battle group at the forward military base at Oshakati, and said the Daily Telegraph, most senior officers accepted that sooner and later they would again deploy deep into Angola to deal with bases of SWAPO.

As in earlier operations, the Telegraph writes, the South African conventional battle groups expect to face

mechanised and armoured units of the Angolan Army and the Cubans, who in the past have always defended the SWAPO bases.

That, said that Telegraph, was the reason for Exercise Iron Fist.

Under the Lusaka Agreement, signed a year ago, Angola and South Africa set up a Joint Monitoring Commission to supervise withdrawal of South African troops from southern Angola and deny access through the area to guerrillas of SWAPO.

The Monitoring Commission came to a standstill six months ago at a line some 35 kilometres north of the South West African border when it became apparent that FAPLA, the Angolan regular army, was unwilling or incapable of stopping the flow of SWAPO guerrillas.

Since then senior officers from both FAPLA and the South African Army have met on a daily basis in the town of Ngiva in Angola to discuss reported infringements of the agreement but the border crossings have continued.

The meetings between FAPLA and the South Africans are cordial enough.

The officers swap soldiers' yarns over coffee, exchange souvenirs and play poker. But the South African military and the South West African Territory Force feel they have been disadvantaged by the Lusaka Agreement.

SWAPO's mobile forward headquarters and training groups swiftly filled the vacuum left as the South African forces withdrew southwards.

South African reconnaissance flights to monitor the guerrillas' movements have been regarded as violations of the Lusaka Accord, although only three of 102 violations investigated by the Commission have been committed by the South Africans.

The Daily Telegraph in its report cites SWAPO's military strength to be estimated by the South Africans to be in the region of 8 000 men. Of these 65 per cent are committed to helping the Angolan Government in its battle against the UNITA rebel movement.

The paper concludes by saying that there has been no decrease in SWAPO's activity in northern South West Africa since the Lusaka Agreement.

ANGOLA

BRIEFS

3,000 GUERRILLAS SHOT IN 1984--According to commanders of the Angolan regular army, FAPLA, 3 000 UNITA guerrillas were killed in operations during 1984. The report, contained in the official Luanda document listed as Angola Information, labelled these guerrillas as 'bandits'. According to the provisional commissioner of Benguela, Mr Kundi Paihama, a total of 983 UNITA guerrillas were shot in that Province during the year while the commander of the 4th Military Region, Major Armando da Cruz Neto, said that the total for the year was 3 000. According to Major Neto UNITA was directing its 'bandit' activity to the massacre of defenceless civilians for it had found out that direct clashes with FAPLA were unfeasible. Addressing a news conference attended by both Angolan and foreign journalists, Major Neto said that it was the aim of FAPLA to entirely wipe out in 1985 all UNITA guerrillas, despite UNITA's tactics, as he put it, of organising themselves in small dispersed groups which were more difficult to spot. Journalists were also shown men who had reportedly deserted the ranks of UNITA. [Text] [Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English 2 Feb 85 p 16]

CSO: 3400/635

BENIN

NORWEGIAN FIRM HELPING TO DEVELOP COUNTRY'S OIL INDUSTRY

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 24 Jan 85 p 33

/Article by Morten Woldsdal: "Oil Funds With Norwegian Aid"/

/Text/ Cotonou, Benin, January--Saga Petroleum will help the West African People's Republic of Benin--one of the world's poorest countries--to obtain more money from its oil operation. Since 1979, the Norwegian oil firm has developed and operated Benin's only oil field. An agreement on expanding the operation will be signed in the near future, so that Benin will be able to increase considerably its oil revenues.

So far, over 900 million kroner have been invested in the Seme-field here in Benin. Eighty-five percent of the investments are financed through Norwegian export credits, with the Institute for Export Credit Guarantees playing a central role. Norway has supplied goods and services amounting to approximately 700 million kroner. Stord Verft A/S, Vigard A/S, Orkanger, Kvaerner Engineering and Wilh. Wilhelmsen are among the Norwegian companies which have participated heavily in the development. Saga has 40 employees in Benin in addition to more than 300 recruited locally.

At present, Saga is conducting negotiations with the authorities in the People's Republic of Benin concerning an expansion of the Seme-field operation. An agreement regarding the start of phase 2 of the project will be signed shortly. Such a phase 2--if implemented according to plans--will involve new investments of more than 400 million kroner. These investments will be underwritten by the World Bank and the European Investment Bank.

Phase 2 includes the drilling of new exploratory wells. Saga expects the field to be larger than previously thought. The new wells will show if this is correct. If the drillings proceed the way Saga hopes they will, two basic and one more advanced platform will be installed in addition to the four platforms presently available for oil production.

Oil production from the Seme-field is very modest by Norwegian standards--approximately just 7,000 barrels of oil per day, which corresponds to 1/10 the production from the mail Valhall-field in the North Sea. With the phase 2 expansion, daily production can be increased to approximately 1,000 barrels.

According to the latest surveys Benin will receive net revenues from the Seme-field totalling approximately \$180 million--1.7 billion kroner--by the time the field will be depleted around 1990. If Saga successfully implements phase 2, an increase in net oil revenues by closer to \$60 million--550 million kroner--is expected.

By 1990, Saga will have received revenues of approximately 75 million kroner from a phase 2 project. At present, the company has an agreement to cover its expenditures; in addition, it will receive four percent of the field's production.

Poor

Benin has approximately 4 million inhabitants. The People's Republic is one of the poorest countries in Africa and is on the United Nation's list of the world's least developed countries. The gross national product is approximately 1,200 kroner per inhabitant.

An increase in revenues from the Seme-field due to phase 2 will therefore mean a lot to Benin. In addition, the country plans on expanding oil production in other areas as well. With the help of Saga Petroleum the authorities in the country have created the right conditions for foreign oil companies to join the offshore drilling. The first round of concessions will probably take place this fall.

Today, oil operations account for merely five percent of Benin's gross national product. However, the objective is to increase this percentage in the coming years. Altogether, 73 percent of the country's population is engaged in agricultural production. Agriculture contributes 45 percent to the gross national product, i.e. almost 10 times as much as the oil operation.

Even though Benin is a very poor country, the People's Republic is not as badly off as some of the other countries in Africa. The daily needs of the people in Benin are met. Hunger and disease are not prevalent in contrast to several other countries on the continent. The school system in the former French colony is constantly being expanded, but there is still a lot could be done in the health field.

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CSO: 3639/80

BOTSWANA

MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS LAUDS CHINESE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE

Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 29 Jan 85 pp 1, 3

[Text]

GABORONE: The Minister of External Affairs, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe has spoken in glowing terms about the economic assistance rendered by China to Botswana.

Dr Chiepe was speaking at a reception marking the tenth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Botswana and China. The President and Mrs Masire and the Vice President, Mr Peter Mmusi and Mrs Mmusi were among the many dignitaries who attended the occasion at the Chinese Embassy on Saturday evening.

Dr Chiepe said in a reply speech that the economic assistance rendered by China to Botswana and the technical cooperation between the two countries cover important sectors of the Botswana economy.

She said this aid had in most instances come at propitious moments, minimising the severity of the hardships resulting from the drought that had plagued Botswana for the past few years. It would thus be seen that Botswana continued to be strengthened by the cooperation between the two countries in the important task of national development. There was nothing nobler

than to make the lives of other human beings better, she pointed out.

She said, the racial animosity and the denial to millions of our brothers of their basic human rights, forces Botswana to live under an ever present threat - the threat of a racial explosion of unprecedented proportions. It would indeed be unnatural to expect millions of people denied basic human rights to fold their arms and resign themselves to perpetual servitude, she said.

The Minister further said the situation in southern Africa represented a tremendous challenge to Botswana and China which believed in human equality and the right of people to self-determination. Like Botswana, she said, China has an equally principled stand on the question of Namibian independence. Such a stand she said, was based on the cardinal principles of self-determination, independence, freedom, fair play and justice for all.

In furtherance to such goals, the Minister said, China had unreservedly supported United Nations Security Council resolution 435 (1978) and rejected the contention that the independence of Namibia should be linked to extraneous issues such as

the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola.

Dr Chiepe disclosed the China's involvement in the liberation struggle in southern Africa was household name and we who believe in human rights and self-determination cannot but be thankful for that" China has never faltered in this regard and her involvement in the struggle for the establishment of democracy and justice in the minority ruled countries of southern Africa made the task much easier than it could have been, she pointed out.

Speaking at the occasion earlier, the Chinese Ambassador to Botswana, Mr Lu Defang, said the signing of the joint communique on the establishment of diplomatic relations on January 6th, 10 years ago opened a new page in the annals of the history of China-Botswana friendly relations.

The friendly relations, and cooperation between the two countries in the political, economic and cultural fields have steadily strengthened and developed, he said. The scopes of economic and technical cooperation between the two, had gradually extended mutual understanding and friendship between the two peoples and are being enhanced each passing day.

Mr Defang told the audience that in the 2nd year following the signing of the communique, late President Sir Seretse Khama paid a successful good-will visit to China, which laid down a sound foundation for the development of the friendly

relations and cooperation between the two.

The Ambassador said the two countries have been brought together by the common desire for peace, that they have, the common tasks of developing their national economy and building their countries respectively.

The ambassador said Chinese government and people had admired and congratulated the Botswana Government for having made great efforts and achieved remarkable success in safeguarding the national independence, developing national economy, building the country and overcoming the difficulties caused by the four-year running drought.

Mr Defang wished Botswana Government and people greater progress and successes in the future.

The Chinese Government and people were closely concerned with the just struggle of the southern African people for the independence of Namibia and against racialism, and would stand firmly by the African brothers. They are convinced that their just cause is bound to win final victory, he added.

In his message and congratulation to Dr Masire, the ambassador quoted the Chinese President Li Xiennien as having expressed his sincere wishes and said: "At time when the bilateral relations between China and Botswana is entering the 2nd decade, let our two sides make common efforts to promote to higher level the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries in all fields."

BOTSWANA

COUNTRY REPORTEDLY BRACED FOR BIG INFILTRATION BY ANC

Durban THE DAILY NEWS in English 28 Jan 85 p 1

[Text]

GABORONE: The Botswana Government is bracing itself for a major infiltration by guerillas of the African National Congress, according to sources here.

The government believes the ANC is trying to establish supply lines through the country now that its operations have been curtailed in Mozambique and Swaziland.

A stepped-up campaign against the ANC comes at a time when the Botswana Defence Force has confirmed finding a cache of arms on the outskirts of the capital city, Gaborone.

The discovery came to light when a group of Gaborone teenagers were fired on by members of the BDF, who had set an ambush for the people hiding the arms.

The teenagers, who included the son of a former high ranking civil servant in Botswana, had gone to the spot late one evening for a party.

According to sources here, Botswana in the past has been an important infiltration route for ANC guerillas and political agents travelling to South Africa from the ANC's headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia.

The Botswana Government operates a strict policy of rounding up suspected guerillas and deporting

them to countries from which they have come.

But sources say there is fresh evidence the ANC is increasing its operations through Botswana in order to overcome setbacks in Mozambique and Swaziland.

Mozambique clamped down on ANC activity after signing the Nkomati non-aggression pact with South Africa a year ago. And Swaziland has recently rounded up ANC suspects after saying that an ANC "hit-man" was responsible for the assassination of the country's deputy security police chief in December.

The alleged assassin was later shot dead by the Swazi police.

South African nationalist sources in Botswana said the ANC was eager to maintain its high profile and credibility in South Africa, and in order to do this it was looking at all possible infiltration routes.

The route from Botswana to South Africa, through the Western Transvaal and Bophuthatswana, was used by many Soweto students fleeing township violence in June 1976.

The Botswana Government, say sources, now believes some of these students who later joined the ANC might be preparing to go back to South Africa along the same "liberation path".

CSO: 3400/626

BOTSWANA

EXPERTS FORECAST BETTER ECONOMIC YEAR

Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 16 Jan 85 p 1

[Text]

GABORONE: Economics lecturer at the University of Botswana Dr W. Masenya has predicted higher income from diamonds sales in 1984 in the light of better market performance and the appreciation of the United States Dollar against the Pula.

Dr Masenya singled out two features which he said determined the course of the economy during 1984. These, he said were the persistent drought and the advancement of the American dollar against other currencies.

In an interview with BOPA, Dr Masenya said inflation was not a major factor since local dealers made significant currency transaction gains. He said another reason was that the inflationary situation in South Africa was not alarming.

In another interview, the Managing Director of Barclays Bank, Mr Robert Bird, said the crippling drought Botswana has been facing in the past four years has resulted in the slow growth of lending to the agricultural sector.

He said this situation made the government bear the brunt of financing major economic projects during 1984. This was

done through direct infrastructural development or through investment by parastatal organisations, particularly the Botswana Development Corporation.

Mr Bird intimated that the outlook for 1985 was not encouraging with the spectre of drought still looming.

He said however, should the diamond price continue to stabilise, the Government should be able to continue with its efforts of stimulating the economy, the bank chief said.

Mr Bird said the major economic project for 1985 was undoubtedly the proposed Soda Ash project at Sua Pan. He said the decision on whether the project can proceed could be finalised during the first half of this year.

Mr Bird commented on excess liquidity saying the bank experienced its reduction during the second half of 1984. He said this was partly due to Government drawing money out of the system through quarterly tax payments.

Mr Bird said if the Government continued its conservative policy of maintaining healthy reserves

to cover periods of economic recession, then excess liquidity would stay on.

Agreeing with Mr Bird on several issues, the Managing Director of Standard Chartered Bank, Mr Christopher Green said 1984 in economic terms was better than 1983.

He said 1985 was expected to be better than the past few years.

Mr Green added that the Pula performed quite well in 1984 in international monetary exchange. He said too that the balance of payment was impressive and Government revenues went up.

In his opinion, the Pula was likely to remain stronger than the South African Rand this year. At the moment it is 11 per cent stronger than a Rand after the devaluation by 15 per cent last week. Mr Green said the overall banking sector grew in lendings, savings and in deposits.

The three economic experts have implied during the interview that economic prospects for this year were bright. There is also an anticipated growth in the manufacturing sector as well as an increase in employment opportunities.

BOTSWANA

SPECIAL EEC AID FINALIZED

Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 29 Jan 85 p 1

[Text]

BRUSSELS: The European Commission has recently laid down the guidelines for the special EEC programme to combat famine in Africa, as decided in principle by the Dublin Summit on 3 and 4 December 1984, according to a despatch from EEC delegate in Gaborone.

The Heads of Government decided, in fact, that the Community and its Member States should provide, up to the next harvest, 1,2 million tonnes of cereals (overall need estimated at 2 million tonnes). After consultation with the Member States and evaluation of the planned national contributions, the details as decided by the Commission are as follows:-

a) 400 000 tonnes will be

provided by the ten Member states (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, United Kingdom).

b) 800 000 tonnes will come from the EEC as a whole, of which 300 000 tonnes fall within the context of the normal food aid programme, and 500 000 tonnes are additional. This alone will cost around P216 million. Pula 99 million will come from a contribution from the Lome II Convention; P6 million will be taken from the 1984 budget credits for natural disasters, P111 million will come from transfer of credits for the 1984 budget, by spending as yet unused sums.

Meanwhile, a resolution on

famine in Africa was adopted at the of end 1984 by the European Parliament. In this text, Parliament, taking note of as yet unused funds earmarked for emergency aid in accordance with the provisions of the second Lome Convention, asks that this sum be used to supply emergency aid to Africa before the Convention expires. In addition, Parliament is calling for greater aid for the countries involved through non-government organisations, and greater efforts on the part of the Commission to ensure that the aid is reaching those people who have been affected.

In the case of Botswana 7 000 metric tons of EEC donated maize which arrived in mid 1984 will be followed by another consignment of 4 000 metric tons in the coming months.

CSO: 3400/628

BOTSWANA

MINISTER MOGWE DISCUSSES RURAL DEVELOPMENTS

Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 23 Jan 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

GABORONE: Botswana may in future export sorghum milling machines, called Sorghum Dehullers, worth P300 000 to South Africa if negotiations between the Rural Industries Innovation Centre and South Africa succeed.

This was highlighted in a speech by the Minister of Mineral Resources and Water Affairs Mr Achile Mogwe at the Rural Industries Promotion (RIP) Tenth Anniversary celebrations in Kanye on Saturday, January 19.

Minister Mogwe noted that it is interesting that the RIP is co-operating with the Government of Tanzania for the exportation of rural industries technology to that country.

The Sorghum Dehuller, Mr Mogwe said, is one of the earliest successes which remains an outstanding example of how correct technology coupled with local development can create rural employment.

"Given the economic conditions of Botswana, the norm would be a large urban milling industry. But through the development of this small machine a rural and decentralised industry has been made possible," he said.

He added that the invention not only created employment to over 200 people, but provides other benefits to the sorghum producer, the consumer and all those who are relieved of the "back-breaking and time-consuming task of home pounding and processing."

Mr Mogwe pointed out that in the ten years of the existence of

RIP, its activities grew to include projects related to renewable energy, low-cost building materials, tanning, desalination, village transport, agricultural implements and others.

He said Botswana imports millions of litres of diesel fuel every year. "Under the harsh conditions of Botswana, diesel engines have a much shorter life span than in other countries. Remote locations together with bad roads increase the problems of repair and fuel supply," he said.

Minister Mogwe said because of this situation, renewable energies are more economically attractive here than elsewhere.

Though he noted that the technology was less efficient than the diesel engine, it is nonetheless suitable for modern-day rural Botswana.

Mr Mogwe observed that technologies created by the RIIC are different in design and capabilities, especially in that they are first renewable energy pumping systems capable of pumping from relatively deep boreholes.

He commended the excellent developments carried on by Rural Industries Promotions, adding that this is the reason why Government increased its annual contribution from approximately P500 000 to P600 000 in 1984/85.

Minister Mogwe also commended RIIC management's efforts in their contribution to the development of the RIIC and the Frederic Ebert Foundation for covering the costs of establishing the centre.

He warned that the centre must not fall into the temptation of becoming a mere "enclave of sophistication, insensitive to the aspirations of the people it is designed to serve."

Mr Mogwe said he appreciated the increase in the numbers of RIIC village artisan trainees from 50 in 1983 to 200 in 1984.

He noted that as populations grow, resources become scarce. It is significant that Botswana is planning ahead so that life becomes less miserable for Batswana.

Mr Mogwe pointed out that the existence of the RIIC in Kanye fits into Government's policy of promoting the living standards of rural people to ensure socio-economic development.

Speaking at the same occasion, the Managing Director of Rural Industries Promotions (RIP), Mr David Inger strongly opposed some technological and economic trends in Botswana which counter efforts to promote rural development.

He pointed a finger at some civil servants who say that Botswana is a small country which instead of developing appropriate technology should simply be buying western technology.

Mr Inger pointed out that the rural income distribution survey showed that 50 per cent of all rural households earned money from traditional beer-brewing.

But, he added, the coming of entrepreneurs from Malawi and South Africa to brew Chibuku actually transferred millions of Pula from a rural cottage industry to prosperous retailers,

industrialists, and the Government.

"Capital intensive urban industry by its very nature always creates pressures for the concentration of wealth in fewer hands," Mr Inger said.

He also added: "It has become more and more clear over the past few years that we are living in a dual society, with real standards of living dropping in rural areas in contrast to the prosperity inside the modern enclave."

He noted however that Botswana is not the only country where increasing extremes of wealth and poverty exist side by side.

In the planning of new projects, Mr Inger said, there is rarely any real effort made to look at issues such as choice of technology or impact on the environment.

He said if we look at planning from the World Bank point of view of stimulating economic growth and controlling fiscal policy then it is true that Botswana has a good reputation for planning.

Mr Inger said for years the RIP, the Technology Centre and the University have been proposing the formation of a national science and technology council to act as a technological ombudsman.

However, he said, such a council has no chances of success unless government itself takes the initiative and also makes sure that it is a force to be reckoned with. BOPA

BOTSWANA

UNEMPLOYMENT STILL HIGH

Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 21 Jan 85 p 7

[Text]

GABORONE: Despite the lifting of the water restrictions last month, the construction industry here appears to be not taking off as expected.

Unemployment figures still stand at the same level.

Lack of construction projects is the main factor behind the stalemate in the construction industry, says three construction company executives here.

"The lifting of the water restrictions last month has not dramatically helped our firm," Wade Adams' Administrative Director, Mr Gobe Matenge said.

Mr Matenge disclosed that his firm was facing a bleak moment due to lack of new projects to embark on. He said he did not foresee his company employing additional people if no new

contracts were entered into with either the government or the Botswana Housing Corporation.

The Director of Us Builders, Mr Ulf Soderstrom on the other hand said the only advantage his company got with the lifting of water restrictions is that it is now easier for them to transport water to construction sites.

Mr Soderstrom said his company is employing about 160 people in its present projects and has no reason to increase the number as there is no work.

He disclosed that Us Builders will this year register for the first time to get Government assistance. Last year, he added, Government was reluctant to provide construction companies with funds.

The manager of LTA Construction company expressed the same views as Mr Matenge and Mr Soderstrom, that projects for construction were not forthcoming.

Like the other companies, LTA still employ the same number of people as last year.

The manager of Multi-Construction, was not available for comment.

CSO: 3400/628

BOTSWANA

DIAMONDS EARN COUNTRY 554 MILLION

Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 18 Jan 85 p 1

[Article by Jowitt Mbongwe]

[Text]

GABORONE: Botswana's income from the sale of diamonds in 1984 was about P554 million, according to the Resident Director of Anglo American Corporation Mr Louis Nchindo.

In an interview with BOPA this week he said income from diamond sales in 1984 amounted to 431 million American dollars but because of the status of the dollar, the amount in Pula was higher.

Mr Nchindo said this income implied that as in the previous years, the mineral sector dominated the economic scene last year and was likely to do so in years to come.

Mr Nchindo revealed that Botswana sold about 30 per cent more diamonds last year in Pula terms. This he said, was largely attributable to increased production of the mines.

He said the Jwaneng diamond mine was again on the lead and produced more than half of the total sales. Jwaneng mine accounted for P370 million of the total

income, whilst the oldest diamond mine Orapa produced P123 million and Letlhakane trailed behind with production representing only P61 million.

Mr Nchindo said there were no plans to increase diamond production this year, adding that a lot of diamonds were still being stockpiled.

He intimated that Botswana was one of the top three world producers of diamonds, having produced about 12 million carats last year. The position was likely to remain unchanged for sometime, he predicted.

The Anglo American boss, said Botswana was likely to get a bigger income in Pula terms from the sale of diamonds this year because of the devaluation of the Pula.

Mr Nchindo however, noted that 1984 was a difficult year because of several problems.

He mentioned some of the problems encountered in diamond marketing as the high interest rates in the United States, the strength of the dollar and the dumping of diamonds into Europe by the Soviet Union.

CSO: 3400/628

BOTSWANA

CANADIAN FUND TO BUILD POULTRY ABBATOIR

Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 21 Jan 85 p 7

[Article by Johannes Pilane]

[Text]

FRANCISTOWN: The Ministry of Agriculture is planning to build a poultry abattoir with funds from a subsidiary of the Canadian International Development Fund.

The funding agency has promised P788 177,33 about (US 400 000 dollars) towards the construction of the complex. The original plan of the ministry to convert an old abattoir belonging to the Francistown Town Council into a poultry farm was abandoned because it was felt this would be costly.

The Regional Agricultural Officer here, Mr J.P. Sono said in an interview with BOPA that a new site had been earmarked for the project. It is next to Plate Glass in the Industrial area.

He told BOPA that there had always been a need for such a project here because most chicken meat has always been imported. This project will be the first of its kind here.

Mr Sono mentioned that it was only last year that some local producers started to supply some wholesalers with fresh chicken meat. The privately-owned slaughter houses are at Shashe.

The old Francistown abattoir has not been used since September last year following the completion of a new abattoir next to the new bridge across the Tati River.

Meanwhile the producers have expressed concern over the price of laying mesh and lack of markets to sell their produce.

They have said that outside producers were controlling the prices because their countries were producing food for fowls and sell them here at high prices.

The Agricultural Management Association officer Mr C.C. Pitso said that the newly-formed Poultry Agricultural Management Association was working on solutions to some of the problems faced by the producers.

He said that the association was formed in order to encourage the farmers to start poultry rearing so as to make the country self-sufficient in both meat and egg production.

Mr Pitso said that some producers in this area were being encouraged to start slaughter houses. BOPA

CSO: 3400/628

BOTSWANA

WORST DROUGHT IN 40 YEARS THREATENS FARMERS

Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 22 Jan 85 p 1

[Text]

GABORONE: Large areas in Southern and Central Botswana are facing the driest period in 40 years and unless there is rain between now and April the prospect for a normal crop yield is pessimistic.

The Botswana Guardian quotes the Division of Planning and Statistics of the Ministry of Agriculture as saying only 10 per cent of the total farming land, mainly in the north and north-east has been ploughed and planted.

A study by the Department of Meteorological services, says the Guardian, reveals that a good production is possible if the January-February and March-April rainfall are more than 30 to 40 per cent above normal rain of which there is small chance.

The paper reports that rainfall registered for the whole country between October and December last year was only 40 per cent below average except for east of

the axis of Kasane-Pandamatenga-Nkange-Tshesebe-Selebi-Phikwe-Tsetsejwe-Bainesdrift where rainfall was close to or above normal.

It says the situation was fairly bad in Ramotswa, Kanye, Ngwaketse, Lobatse, Molepolole, Mochudi, Masama and Mahalapye where rainfall registered between October and December was either nil or 35 per cent below normal. But some of the worst hit areas like Tshabong, Jwaneng, Molepolole and Serowe registered more than 64 per cent below normal up to last month.

According to statistics the Southern area used to yield good crops. In normal years, it used to produce 55 000 metric tons but last year crop production was only 7 300 metric tons, and if the drought continues the yield this year may be less than the 7 000 ton mark.

CSO: 3400/628

BOTSWANA

BRIEFS

TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA--Gaborone: Botswana and Czechoslovakia yesterday signed a trade agreement in order to strengthen their relationship and develop mutual trade. The agreement was signed in the Office of the President. The Minister of Commerce and Industry Mr M. P. K. Nwako signed on behalf of Botswana Government while the Director General in the Federal Ministry of Foreign Trade, Mr Josef Koci signed on behalf of his country. After the signing, Mr Nwako said that Botswana were looking forward to the days when raw materials would be imported from Czechoslovakia into Botswana. He said that the agreement would be important for as long as it was honoured by both countries despite the long distance that separates the two countries. Mr Nwako said that he wished that the agreement should go a long way in strengthening trade relations between the two countries. Mr Koci, said in response to Mr Nwako's remarks that he hoped that the trade agreement would be followed later by economic and technical agreements. He also said that his country would be happy to see raw materials imported from his country into Botswana. The agreement which became effective immediately after the signing, is valid for three years but with the provision for further renewals. [Text] [Gaborone BOTSWANA DAILY NEWS in English 15 Jan 85 p 1]

CSO: 3400/628

GHANA

PIONEER CRITICIZES SOLDIERS' ASSAULT ON EDITOR

AB252010 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Feb 85

[From the press review]

[Text] Writing under the heading "No Malice," the PIONEER again comments on the recent harassment and manhandling of the editors of the paper by certain military personnel. The paper says it is disappointing that after 3 years of the country's revolution, there are still some apostles of the process who do not understand the aims and principles of the revolution. It notes that Ghana has reached a stage of ensuring and guaranteeing economic prosperity and social justice through justifiable means. The PIONEER says that what is most unfortunate is that at a time when the leader of the revolution, Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, is calling for a free exchange of views by all Ghanaians to help in the effective administration of the country, there are still some elements in the society who are working against press freedom. However, it maintains that two wrongs do not make one right; therefore, it renews its commitment to play the watchdog role in spite of the recent unfortunate incident. In doing this, the PIONEER pledges to continue to contribute positively and meaningfully to the national reconstruction effort. The paper, however, appeals to all those who were affected by the assault to forgive and forget, for all Ghanaians need to move together as one people of a country seeking economic prosperity and political stability.

In conclusion, the PIONEER hopes that the government will take punitive measures against perpetrators of this assault in order not to let persons who have axes to grind with the government use it for their political advantage.

CSO: 3400/640

GHANA

BRIEFS

ROMANIAN TRACTOR SPARES RECEIVED--The Agricultural Mechanization Limited at Nsawam today took delivery of 72 million cedis worth of tractor spare parts at a ceremony at Tema Harbor. Speaking to newsmen at the harbor, the general manager of the Agricultural Mechanization Limited, Mr Ablor Mensah, said a large consignment of tractor tires worth 17.5 million cedis have already been delivered. He announced that 1,568 cases of tractor spare parts are at the docks awaiting delivery. They were brought in under a Ghana-Romanian bilateral trade agreement. He emphasized that the spare parts would be sufficient to rehabilitate at least 80 percent of the universal tractors and equipment in the system. [Excerpt] [Accra Domestic Service in English 2145 GMT 21 Feb 85 AB]

ARMED FORCES TO MANEUVER--The Ministry of Defense announces that the Armed Forces will be conducting field maneuvers in the area of Akosombo Akwamu Dwarf Islands from Wednesday to Saturday. A statement from the ministry says the maneuvers, codenamed Exercise Team Work, will involve movement of troops throughout the country. [Text] [Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 25 Feb 85 AB]

CSO: 3400/640

KENYA

STUDENTS EXPLOIT BOYCOTT AMID THREATS OF EXAMINATION LOCKOUT

Nairobi THE KENYA TIMES in English 8 Feb 85 pp 1, 32

[Article by Emman Omari]

[Text]

NAIROBI University students, who continue boycotting lectures may not be allowed to sit examinations, the students were warned yesterday shortly after ten of them were arrested for driving out in a university Land Rover without authority.

The vice-chancellor, Prof. Joseph Maina Mungai, warned that the continued boycott of lectures by students may affect admission to university's examination.

However the arrest of the 10 students was purely on the Land Rover incident Reg. No. KRP 146 and had nothing to do with the boycott. The arrested students may appear in court to answer charges.

Earlier in the morning, the students had resolved, at a *Kamukunji* (meeting) to use university vehicles to go to constituent campuses to persuade other students to sup-

port them.

The ten students went to the garage and forced security men to surrender the ignition key of a bus but the security personnel refused. The students forced their way, and took the Land Rover on which they used unorthodox methods to start the engine.

Other students, meanwhile sat-in at the great court and demanded that they be addressed by the vice-chancellor or the Minister for Education, Science and Technology, Prof. Jonathan Ng'eno.

By 1 p.m. a notice from the vice-chancellor, had been pinned on the notice board outside.

It contained a statement, which was read on the Voice of Kenya radio, reminding all students that three students, who had been expelled from the university were contravening the University Act.

Those expelled are Julius Mwandawiro Mganga, a postgraduate student and the former student leader, Philip K. Tirop and Karimi Nduthu. Said the statement: "Accordingly, their continued presence at the university of Nairobi premises and any

meetings organised and/or addressed by them is in contravention of the provisions of the University of Nairobi Act."

The statement said the parents of the affected students had been informed of the reasons leading to their expulsion.

He also reminded other five students that their continued presence at the university was illegal following the withdrawal of the government's sponsorship.

The five are Gacheche Miano, Zachariah O.K. Ondieki, John Gupta Thiong'o, Athanasio Opondo and Martin Okumu.

The student boycott entered its second day yesterday following the University Council's decision on Tuesday.

But the Chiromo campus students, who had taken part in their examinations, had agreed to sit for the remaining papers.

At the morning's meeting the students resolved to conduct a harambee to enable the eight students to seek a court injunction against the expulsions.

CSO: 3400/658

KENYA

EXPULSION OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS LEADS TO BOYCOTT

Nairobi THE KENYA TIMES in English 7 Feb 85 pp 1, 20

[Article by Emman Omari]

[Text]

THREE students were yesterday expelled from the University of Nairobi and the Government withdrew sponsorship for five others, according to an official notice by University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Joseph Maina Mungai.

Those expelled are former student leader, Mr. Julius Mganga Mwandawiro, a postgraduate in linguistics, a second year engineering student, Mr. Karimi Nduthu and a second year law student, Mr. Philip Tirop.

Those whose sponsorship has been withdrawn are Gacheche wa Miano, Zachariah O.K. Ondieki, John Gupta Thiongo, Athanasia Opondo and Martin Okumu.

According to the notice signed by Prof. Mungai, the university council has instructed the eight students to vacate the college premises immediately. Other students will continue with classes normally.

Following this action, the students yesterday boycotted classes in "sympathy" with eight students demanding an explanation leading to their removal.

They called a *kamukunji* (meeting) at the great court and demanded audience with the vice-chancellor.

Notices for the meeting went up yesterday morning calling the students to attend after word had gone

round that the students were expelled. The letter of expulsion served to three students, signed by deputy vice-chancellor (Finance) Prof. Philip Mbithi says, "Following a directive received on February 5, 1985 from the Government of the Republic of Kenya that your sponsorship is withdrawn and that you be expelled from the university, the Council of the Nairobi University, under the provisions of Section 12(1) and 12(2)(e) of the University of Nairobi Act 1970, decided, at its special meeting held at 3 p.m. on February 5, 1985, to expel you from the university with immediate effect."

It adds that the students should vacate the university premises immediately. And according to the letter sent to those whose sponsorship was withdrawn, the council "decided that since you cur-

rently have no sponsorship, you are required, with immediate effect, to vacate university premises until you have made arrangements for your sponsorship to be re-established."

During the morning *kamukunji*, some of the students accused the Students Representative Council (SRC) and Students Organisation of Nairobi University (Sonu) officials of what they called "betrayal." . . . but there was apparent division within the ranks of the students. One speaker who demanded that they march to the streets and to Harambee House was booed. A few called out for the dissolution of Sonu and its executive arm, SRC. The Sonu secretary general who is also a secretary to the SRC, Mr. Kiriba Maina, was shouted down when he took to the platform to talk to the students.

Meanwhile, there appears to be a students leadership struggle according to most students interviewed by *The Kenya Times*.

One student who declined to be identified said Sonu leader, Lumumba and the expelled Mwandawiro have had to look at each other with suspicions following an attempt by Mwandawiro to form a national students organisation comprising all colleges and secondary schools.

It is understood that Lumumba also wanted to form a duplicate organisation comprising the Kenyan youth.

None of this claim would be officially confirmed, but attempts by some of the expelled students to address the *kamukunji* were marred by booing and shouts of "go home, go home..." as most students evidently feared another university closure.

CSO: 3400/658

KENYA

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS TO BE TRIED IN CAMERA

Nairobi SUNDAY NATION in English 10 Feb 85 pp 1, 28

[Article by Paul Muhoho]

[Text]

Fourteen University of Nairobi students appeared in a Nairobi court on Friday but the charges against them were not immediately known because newsmen were not allowed into the courtroom.

The students arrived in the courts in a prison lorry shortly before 6 p.m. and were immediately whisked into one of the rooms to be charged before the Chief Magistrate, Mr H. H. Buch.

They were under a heavy escort, comprising the regular police, the Administration Police, the CID, and plainclothes men.

The public including the Press were cleared from the court corridors. The Press had been waiting the whole day for the students to appear.

After all the court gates were locked, the students were ushered in and the proceedings started.

The session lasted only 15 minutes, however. The *Sunday Nation* tried in vain to get into the courtroom, even after appeals to the security men.

Sunday Nation photographer Joseph Thuo was warned several times not to attempt to take photographs of the students.

The head of prosecution at the Nairobi Law Courts, Supt Samwel Kilemi, was expected to lead the State's case against the 14.

After the proceedings, the students were whisked away in the prison lorry, escorted by several CID vehicles but their destination was not known.

On Thursday night, Nairobi area's CID officers were questioning about 15 students from the

Nairobi University picked up as they drove to Kenyatta University College in a Land-Rover they were suspected to have commandeered from the main campus.

Confirming the arrests and subsequent questioning of the students, a spokesman at the Kenya Police Headquarters said on Thursday night that the vehicle had been recovered at a road block near Roysambu on the outskirts of the city.

The Land-Rover had allegedly been commandeered from the Nairobi University College's transport section and is used to ferry students from Chiromo to the main campus.

Later on Thursday, when the students launched a "harambee" funds drive for a court injunction restraining the Government from expelling students, it was decided at the students' *kamukunji* (meeting at the Great Court) that some students volunteer to rush to the Kenyatta University College campus and organise a funds meeting so that the required Sh10,000 could be raised.

The volunteers were quickly available and they took off in the Land-Rover alleged to have been commandeered. Immediately after the alleged commandeering, police were alerted and mounted roadblocks on all the routes the students were expected to follow.

The roadblocks were manned by armed policemen in riot gear.

Meanwhile, one of the students expelled from the University of Nairobi, Mr Mwandawiro Mghanga, continued to defy the order by the Vice-Chancellor Prof Maina Mungai requiring him to leave the campus and not to

address any Kamukunji when he addressed students at the University sports ground yesterday morning.

Mr Mwandawiro told the students that the eight students sent away from the university were willing to go home and leave the rest continue with learning as long as they were told their mistakes by the university authorities through the right channels.

He said: "We have a laid down disciplinary procedure at the university and it is unfortunate that it has not been followed in our case. If we are told our mistakes, if any exists at all, and we are guilty, then we shall have to quit the campus but not now!"

The students reiterated their Friday return-to-books formula which demands that the eight students remain at the university until the disciplinary committee has looked into their case.

They added: "But if the Government and the university authorities continue giving us a cold shoulder when we are peacefully looking for an end to this situation, then we shall have no alternative but continue with the boycott."

The students strongly condemned the *Kenya Times* editorial and their main front page story calling on them to end the boycott while at the same time quoting 20 parents who have appealed to the students to end the boycott.

They shouted: "Those 20 parents are ones whose children have been admitted early to the university, if not they are just 20 policemen!"

KENYA

OUTSIDE AGENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR UNIVERSITY UNREST

Nairobi THE KENYA TIMES in English 9 Feb 85 p 6

[Editorial]

[Text]

AFTER last year's diplomatic breakthrough by Nairobi University students culminating in the "tea with the President" debut, new problems have brought the students almost back to square one. The problems seem to have been brought about by the expulsion of three students and the withdrawal of sponsorship for five more.

Because the expelled students did not vacate the campus as expected by the authorities, they have naturally availed themselves of the apparently free platform to incite the rest to some action. Thus a number of illegal *kamukunjis* have taken place led by what are strictly illegal residents.

Happily, the friendship which has prevailed between the University and the Chancellor, who is also the President, seems to have created a difficult dilemma for the majority of the students. While the expelled students have been inciting some kind of demonstration, the bulk of the students considered it unwise and a betrayal of faith to their Chancellor to go out demonstrating.

For this, we in *The Kenya Times* congratulate the many students who exhibited the expected degree of maturity to their Chancellor, University authorities, their parents and many of their well wishers.

It is, however, unfortunate that the self-styled student leaders, one of whom sat next to the Chancellor at the tea, can behave so treacherously after such a short time, and attempt to turn the entire campus against the Government. As onlookers, we can only suspect that, as usual, possible outside influence to destabilise this country through the so-called "student power" is at work.

Such outside forces look for young firebrands and upstarts — intelligent crowd movers who can carry credibility with the rest of the peaceful and serious students, and they are happy to use the poor ignorant firewoods for a mere pittance.

While sincerely appreciating the action of those who refused to be dragged into anti-patriotic and blind riotousness, we would, at the same time, express our inexplicable wonder relating to the absolute dignity, maturity and the comforting degree of peaceful integration with which ex-Nairobi University graduates have demonstrated over the years, once they join the ranks of Government and other employee ranks. This is in contrast with the occasionally trouble-riddled campus life, which goes to prove the point that some undetermined destabilising agent works and is maybe working through a couple of misguided students.

We cannot doubt that the Government is fully aware of such external agents just as we are more than certain that the Government knows why the few students in question had to be expelled, and others sent down. Students have no time to waste seeking to become the voice of their parents and the Kenyan society at large.

They have no mandate to question Government decisions. They have no mandate to seek audience with the Minister of Education, let alone the President. They have their own Vice-Chancellor who is in constant touch with their own Chancellor and the Minister.

If they do not recognise this machinery, there is no other legal procedure and we strongly recommend that the unaffected students resume classes and then follow that procedure.

KENYA

STUDENT STIPEND IN CHINA DISCUSSED

Nairobi THE WEEKLY REVIEW in English 8 Feb 85 pp 11-12

[Text]

THE Kenya government and the Chinese embassy in Nairobi this week dismissed complaints from Kenyan students admitted to Chinese universities on scholarship that the allowances they receive are inadequate to cater for all their needs. The students, at the Beijing Language Institute, had written to *The Weekly Review* complaining that the monthly allowance of 120 Chinese yuan (one yuan is equivalent to about shs.6 in Kenya) was not enough to buy food, books and stationery while they were in China. "Every month, food alone costs 80 yuan or more. Other basic necessities cost at least 30 yuan. How can we buy reference books, such as dictionaries, while the price of commodities is rising so sharply?" the letter said.

The director of higher and technical education in the ministry of education, Mr. David Mbiti was not impressed by the students' complaints. He said the stipend that Kenyan students get while studying in China is higher than that which the Chinese give their own students, while other African students in China get the same as the Kenyan students. "The Kenya government has no extra funds to top-up the scholarship awards that they get and to do so would be tantamount to discrediting the donor country," Mbiti said. Mbiti added that if the parents of the students felt that the money was inadequate, they would be allowed to top it up.

The students complained that one of them, Mr. Leonard Juna, had contracted a heart disease owing to inadequate winter clothing. They said the colleges arranged tours during winter and summer holidays but the students could not afford to join the tours because they were

required to pay between 200 to 300 yuan for them. They therefore appealed to President Moi to consider what they termed their plight in China.

In response to the complaints, the first secretary in the Chinese embassy in Nairobi said his country gives special preferences to foreign students in China. He said, China is a developing country with low salaries and the cost of living is relatively low. He said he had two sons and one daughter in Chinese universities for whom he pays maintenance of 40 yuan per month. He said that after working for 35 years, he himself used to earn 105 yuan before he left China as the head of the East African division in the Chinese foreign ministry. As an example of the cost of living in China, he said a kilo of rice costs about Kshs.2/20, a kilo of beef shs.710, and a bottle of beer about shs. 2.80. "My son's breakfast at the university costs between an equivalent of 50 cents and shs.1.50, lunch shs.2-3 and dinner the same amount," he said.

A senior engineer with many years of experience in China gets a monthly salary of 100 yuan and that is much less than the allowances given to foreign students. According to a brochure from the Chinese embassy in Nairobi, the average income for a Chinese worker is about 526 yuan which is about 44 yuan per month. The embassy official said foreign students in China get 120 yuan for allowances but they are exempted from paying tuition fees, lodging, medical or travelling fares if they are transferred from a college to another. Both the embassy official and Mbiti were agreed on the fact that depending on how the allowances to the Kenyan students in China were used, they should be enough to cater for their stay in the country. ■

CSO: 3400/645

KENYA

OIL PROSPECTING BEGINS IN EARNEST

Nairobi THE WEEKLY REVIEW in English 8 Feb 85 p 2 of the "Industrial Review" Supplement

[Text]

COMPANIES anxious to prospect for oil in Kenya have been shuttling between government ministries to put final touches on their contracts in order to start work on some 260,000 square kilometres in northern Kenya considered to be an oil potential area. Some oil companies commenced preliminary exploration work at the beginning of this year, and others are said to be sending in telegrams of request to the government. At least five blocks of the ten defined blocks have received or are under consideration for bidding by foreign companies. Block 1 is still vacant, but Block 2 is under negotiations for an agreement in a joint venture between Petro-Fina, a Belgian oil company and Amoco International, an American multinational which has also signed an exclusive exploration contract in Block 10. Amoco signed a contract to carry out exploration in Block 10 on November 20 last year and the new petroleum (exploration and production) act requires work to start within two to three months from the date of signing. Consequently, Amoco should commence its initial work by February 20, but it is understood that the company is seeking clarification of some clauses in the contract before actual work begins. Although it has not started work, officials of the ministry of energy and regional development have expressed optimism in this area and it remains for Amoco to prove them right.

Negotiations between the government and Texaco, the third biggest oil company in the world, are in advanced stages for Block 3. Sources in the ministry said signing of a contract could be within the first half of this year. Actual work, however, is going on in Block 4 under a joint venture between the Kenya govern-

ment through its National Oil Corporation (NOC) and Petro-Canada, which signed a contract in May 1984. Work started in September last year with seismic tests of a 1,200-km. stretch expected to cost about \$9 million. The seismic work is expected to be completed by the end of March this year, but it will require an additional six months to interpret the geological data. Accordingly, the exploring firm is under obligation to increase its efficiency in covering the entire area and to do it effectively because the money it spends is at the company's own risk and is recoverable only if exploitation takes place.

In case of a commercial discovery, the term of contract in respect of development area is 25 years, after which the government has the right to float the area on the market. The burden in the contract lies heavily on the prospectors and it is up to them (not the Kenya government) to ensure that their investment does not go down the drain. The investors agreement ensures protection of the Kenyan industry and the firms are under obligation to buy and promote Kenya products. The contracts spell out an emphasis on manpower training which every firm is supposed to meet from the first year of commercial development. Each firm is expected to surrender to the treasury about \$150,000, and \$100,000 from the second year onwards, towards manpower training; it will be the responsibility of the government to channel this fund to educational training. It is expected that the two companies will start development work of drilling the first well in September this year, in line with the work schedule contained in their contract. If the two companies strike oil in this block, it is expected

ted to be the first group to exploit oil in the country. Blocks 5, 6, 7 and 8 are still vacant but Block 9 is subject to negotiations between four companies — three of them in a consortium — forming two interested parties. Although officials of the ministry are not keen to disclose the identities of these companies, it is understood that at least four other companies showed interest at the close of the deadline on December 20 last year. The companies include Total, Marathon, Mobil and Union Oil besides Amoco and Petro-Fina. Several other companies understood to be studying data and sending requests include Coconoco, Esso, Elf and Union Texas.

According to a model production sharing contract, the exploration period is said to be seven years with a detailed work schedule contained in the document which the investor must stick to. An official of the ministry of energy said this does not mean that oil cannot be struck within one year. If the investor strikes and mines oil within two or three years, the better, he said. In the first three years, the investor must carry out certain specific work to warrant an extension period of an additional two years. One requirement of the investor is that he drill at least one well to warrant complete commercial development within the first extension period of two years and, if need be, the next two years. Ideally, the first three years of prospecting should be enough to tell whether commercial enterprise would commence, and exploitation should be undertaken within the first five years.

Facing every prospecting company is the tightly worded agreement which requires each company to surrender 50 per cent of its area and another 25 per cent after the first two years' extension period. This implies that the government is free to re-negotiate these areas and give them to another company if the prospecting firm does not cover the entire area within the first three years. ■

CSO: 3400/645

KENYA

BRIEFS

STUDENT CASUALTIES---One student died and another was seriously injured during the Sunday morning disturbances at the University of Nairobi playground, police confirmed yesterday. A police spokesman said investigations to establish the circumstances which led to the death were still continuing. "We are not sure whether the student died from a stampede by other students or not," he said. He added that the name of the student would not be released until the next of kin were informed. The spokesman said another student was still in hospital in critical condition following the incident. Independent sources said the student was a female who may have been trampled upon by other students running away from police. Reports from Kenyatta National Hospital said more students were still nursing injuries at the hospital. The students, admitted in the hospital's old wing are said to have fractured limbs, but hospital authorities were unavailable for more details. [Excerpt] [Article by Emmanuel Omari] [Nairobi THE KENYA TIMES in English 12 Feb 85 p 1]

COUP PARTICIPANTS' SENTENCES REDUCED---The High Court yesterday reduced the sentences of nine ex-airmen of the disbanded Kenya Air Force who had appealed against sentences imposed on them by a court martial for mutiny relating to the activities of the August 1, 1982, coup bid. Mr. Justice D. C. Porter also dismissed the appeals of another eight, also jailed for mutiny. Among those whose sentences were reduced are Nyamori Robert Mugabe who had appealed against an 18-year-jail term. This was reduced to five years. Silvanus Ogiua Nyangufu had his 13-year-jail term reduced to nine years. Peter Gitatu had a nine-year-jail term reduced to 6 years; Peter Chacha's nine years were reduced to six years; Juma Boma Omar's 18 years were reduced to 9 years; Lawrence Ngure Njoroge had his 12 years reduced to 4; Barrack Ossembo's 5 years were reduced to 3 years; Henry Ashihundu's 8 years were reduced to 6 years. Among those whose sentences were dismissed are Adam Ismael Mutinde who had appealed against a reduced sentence of 3 years. [Text] [Article by Edward Rihnaa] [Nairobi THE KENYA TIMES in English 12 Feb 85 p 3]

TOY PISTOLS BANNED---President Moi has banned toy pistols with immediate effect. He has also ordered anybody in possession of such a pistol to burn it for their own sake. Addressing a delegation of ex-freedom fighters, who had called on him at his Kabarak home, the President noted that it was not easy for a mwananchi to distinguish between a toy and a real pistol. "A person carrying a toy pistol may order you to lie down and take away all your property, while if you knew that it was only a toy, you would fight back," the

President said. Referring to shopkeepers in particular, President Moi noted that although they kept such pistols to protect themselves, the same pistols were used in robberies against them. "Although you are licensed to use such pistols, I now order an immediate ban on such licences," he said. The President said the measure was in the interest of peace, "because we fought for independence to live in peace". Stating that it would henceforth be illegal for anybody to possess a toy pistol, President Moi said he would have the order gazetted. [Excerpt] [Article by Dorothy Kweyu Munyakho] [Nairobi SUNDAY NATION in English 10 Feb 85 p 1]

YUGOSLAVIAN TRADE AGREEMENT DETAILED--Yugoslav investments in Kenya will soon rise following the signing of trade agreements between Kenyan officials and a Yugoslav trade mission which has been visiting different parts of the country. According to the mission leader Mr. Ales Ilc, who is also the chairman of Kovino Tehna and Mr. Pavle Grosselj, secretary general of the Yugoslav Consortium for Economic Co-operation with East Africa, Yugoslav firms will undertake joint-ventures in manufacturing for export food products like fruit juices, instant coffee, fish meal, honey, bakery units and baby foods. The processing of coconut fibre will also be undertaken on a large scale for export to Yugoslavia to be utilized for making car seats. The importing firm in Yugoslavia is Europe's biggest manufacturer of car seats. According to the Yugoslav officials, the coconut fibre project will employ an extra 3000 Kenyans when fully operational and will require little investment cost. The Yugoslav officials, who were talking at a press conference in Nairobi accompanied by the Yugoslav ambassador to Kenya Mr. Zoran Zagar, said trade between the two countries would also increase. [Text] [Article by James Tumusiime] [Nairobi THE KENYA TIMES in English 1 Feb 85 p 8]

NEW AMBASSADORS WELCOMED--At another function, President Moi said Kenya would like the African continent to be free of colonialism, oppression and everything that undermine human dignity. He was receiving credentials from the new ambassadors of Rumania and Bulgaria. The new ambassador of Rumania is Mr. Gheorghe Manciu, while that of Bulgaria is Mr. Georgy Petrov Kassov. Welcoming the two envoys, President Moi emphasised Kenya's readiness to work with the two countries towards achieving peace internationally. The Rumanian envoy said the people of his country followed with great interest the efforts of Kenyans under President Moi's leadership in achieving higher goals in economic, social and cultural development. The Bulgarian Ambassador said Kenya's support of the struggle of the African peoples against colonialism and all forms of racial discrimination caused a feeling of respect in Bulgaria. [Excerpts] [Nairobi THE KENYA TIMES in English 2 Feb 85 p 16]

CSO: 3400/646

LESOTHO

JOINT TRADE UNION GAINS RECOGNITION

Maseru LESOTHO WEEKLY in English 11 Jan 85 p 5

[Text]

THE recently formed umbrella trade union movement, The Lesotho Congress of Free Trade Unions, has gained recognition as the sole national trade union movement of workers in Lesotho, according to an announcement from the Department of Labour.

The announcement has been made by the Registrar of Labour organisations, the Labour Commissioner, Mr. M. J. 'Mabathoana, in the government gazette No. 40 of 1984 (Legal Notice No. 94 of 1984).

This was circulated to all trade union leaders, District labour officers, and other bodies involved in labour affairs.

This final and much awaited formation of a single trade union movement has been hailed in government circles and

workers as the greatest achievement.

The Labour Commissioner in the circular has stated that the unification of the trade unions in Lesotho and the subsequent registration will be made known to the International trade union movements — The International Labour Organisation (ILO), Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU), International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (I.C.F.T.U.).

These international labour organisations, Mr. 'Mabathoana pointed out, were very concerned about the division of workers unions in Lesotho in the past. As such they were reluctant to grant the much needed aid which was to benefit the workers in Lesotho.

The workers suffered as a result of this situation which made it difficult for the divided unions to obtain financial aid to de-

velop better working facilities such as the creation of co-operatives and the running of the Institute of Labour Studies.

The defunct major trade union organisation — Lesotho Council of Workers and the Lesotho Federation of Workers — alienated themselves from the majority of workers and the government.

Mr. 'Mabathoana has made clear in the circular that the Labour Commission will only deal with the affairs of workers through the registered Lesotho Congress of Free Trade Unions.

A 12-member interim committee headed by Mr. Raymond Mothepu, was elected on April 27, 1984 at the Airport Hotel conference to run and make preparations for a national conference which will elect a national executive. The date of the national conference will be announced later.

LESOTHO

COUNTRY FACES FOOD SHORTAGE

Maseru LESOTHO WEEKLY in English 4 Jan 85 p 1

[Text]

LESOTHO is faced with an estimated food shortfall of 148,000 metric tons for the period between July last year and June this year.

Making the announcement in Maseru last week, the Minister of Agriculture and Marketing Mr Peete Peete said this follows a total production of just over 130,000 metric tons of grain foodstuffs, realised in the 1983/84 cropping season.

This figure, which represents about 66% of the 10 year average production, comprises about 79 metric tons of maize, 33 metric tons of sorghum, 17 metric tons of wheat, one ton of beans and over three tons of peas.

Meanwhile a mission of agricultural officers from the Ministry of Agriculture recently went on an inspection tour of maize crop fields, cultivated under the Food Self-sufficiency programme at Ha Mofoka, Ha Katu and Ha Lihanela in the Koro-Koro area of the Maseru district.

The District Agricultural Officer in Maseru Miss Thakane 'Mamonye, a member of the mission concern at some fields that have not been thoroughly cultivated.

She advised farmers to get rid of noxious weeds and appealed to livestock farmers to keep their animals away from the crop fields.

CSO: 3400/627

LESOTHO

POULTRY INDUSTRY EXPANDS

Maseru LESOTHO WEEKLY in English 11 Jan 85 p 1

[Text]

THE Lesotho government is negotiating with the Italian government to obtain funds for the construction of a big hatchery for broilers and layers, the poultry abattoir and proper storage facilities for slaughter chicken and eggs.

This was disclosed by the Minister of Agriculture and Marketing Mr. Peete Peete when he addressed poultry farmers in Maseru last Saturday during their annual conference.

He said in the abattoir chicken belonging to members of the cooperative would be slaughtered and prepared for the market while owners got their money on the spot. He said in this way poultry farmers would have easy market for their products.

Mr. Peete said the main objective of the exercise is to improve nutrition in the country. He stressed that poverty lowers the dignity of a nation and consequently appealed to poultry farmers to main-

tain a good standard of production.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Referring to achievements in the poultry farming, the Minister observed that Egg Circles have been built in all the ten districts of Lesotho and that there are now over 4,000 poultry farmers throughout the country.

He said that it is the policy of the government to ensure that poultry farming is entirely owned by Basotho.

Mr. Peete appealed to Co-Op. Lesotho to bring poultry feed nearer to the farmers and to fix reasonable prices. He said this would discourage farmers from importing feed from the neighbouring country.

The 2-day conference was attended by representatives from all the districts of the country.

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LESOTHO

BRIEFS

MEKALING ROAD CONSTRUCTION---A contract valued at M7.85m for the construction of 27 km of the Mphahle's Hoek of Mekaling road, was concluded by the Ministry of Works and the Delegation of the Commission of the European Communities in Maseru last week. According to an announcement from the EMC office in Maseru, the contract involves the realignment and reconstruction of more than half of the section of the southern perimeter highway from Mphahle's Hoek to Quthing to butumised standard. The work includes the construction of a high level bridge over the Maphutseng river to replace the present low level crossing often over-topped when the river is in flood. The contract has been awarded to the British company of Rush and Tompkins. Under the terms of the contract the work officially starts on Jan. 21 and is scheduled to be completed within two years. The funding of the contract is in the form of a special loan provided from the 2nd Lome Convention. The loan bears interest at the rate of 3/4% per annum payable within 40 years with a 10 year grace period. [Text] [Maseru LESOTHO WEEKLY in English 4 Jan 85 p 1]

OPPOSITION KILLS NATIONAL PARTY MEMBERS---The Prime Minister Dr Leabua Jonathan says reports have been received that subversive elements of the opposition have killed some people in Butha-Buthe and burnt their houses. Addressing a pitso at Ho Mokhorro in Leribe this week he said these people are being killed simply because they are members of the Lesotho National Party. He did not elaborate further but said he wants the elections to be free, fair and peaceful. He said the government will not sit back and watch these senseless killings of innocent people. Dr. Jonathan appealed to all in authority to help so that these criminals may desist from their acts of violence. [Text] [Maseru LESOTHO WEEKLY in English 4 Jan 85 p 1]

AIRPORT PROJECT NEAR END---In a short ceremony to mark the last stages of work on the international Airport at Thota-Moli, the Minister of Transport Dr Kenneth Maphathe, poured the last batch of concrete to top out the control of the air port, this week. The project, due for completion in June this year is at present 68% complete. The contractor for the work is Kier International Ltd of the United Kingdom. The consultants are Delcanda International Ltd and Acres International Ltd of Canada, in association with Lesotho Consulting Engineers. [Text] [Maseru LESOTHO WEEKLY in English 11 Jan 85 p 1]

ADB LOAN---Lesotho is to get a loan of over M24 million from the African Development Bank (ADB) to put finishing touches to the international airport

project under construction at Thota-Moli, 18 Km south of Maseru. A report from Abidjan in Ivory Coast, the headquarters of the bank, says the agreement was signed this week by Lesotho's High Commission to Kenya Mr. Bereng Sekhonyana and the ADB Vice President Mr. Bahute. The airport construction, started in 1983, is scheduled for commissioning in June this year. This is regarded as one of the country's major projects. [Text] [Maseru LESOTHO WEEKLY in English 4 Jan 85 p 1]

CSO: 3400/627

MOZAMBIQUE

DWINDLING HOPES SEEN ON EVE OF N'KOMATI'S FIRST ANNIVERSARY

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 25 Jan 85 p 11

[Article by Joao Santa Rita]

[Text]

With only six weeks to go before the first birthday of the Nkomati Accord between Mozambique and South Africa it is becoming increasingly clear that there is little to celebrate.

Hope is fading for the success of peace talks which continued in Pretoria this week.

The Mozambican rebels' demands seem impossible to meet by both Pretoria and Maputo.

And with the economic and military situation worsening by the day, fears have been expressed that Mozambique is being plunged into chaos.

Law and order in many parts of the country have now totally collapsed with army deserters, bandits and rebels ambushing civilians with little trace of a grand political aim.

Residents of Maputo are afraid to leave city limits.

Even a ferry trip across the bay is becoming hazardous.

As the war increases, the urban population is facing increasing hardships.

"There is no panic in Maputo," says a Johannesburg-based pilot who travels often to Mozambique, "but people know they cannot travel outside the city.

"You travel 10 km out and you can be shot.

"You have to fly everywhere."

The black market for foreign currency has soared to unprecedented levels.

Shops where food and drink may be freely obtained accept only foreign currency.

For those without access to the dollar shops, ration cards are the order of the day.

"During Christmas a family of four was allocated one beer," the pilot said.

"There is no point in trying to go for a drink and a meal at the main hotels where foreigners stay.

"They accept only dollars, so the locals are effectively barred from them."

Even if peace talks with the MNR succeeded tomorrow it would take months to restore the country's internal equilibrium.

Mozambican sources have for the first time admitted what others have been claiming for months: that attacks on roads around the country could be the work of Government soldiers left for months in remote army posts without food or pay.

"We are aware of the problem," say Mozambican sources.

"A Government official was recently shot at by soldiers at a road block north of the capital.

"He escaped and the soldiers were later arrested and shot."

Evidence is mounting of the breakdown of law and order and the crippling economic situation.

Portuguese diplomats report that last year a bus was stopped by Frelimo Government soldiers in the northern province of Nampula. Passengers were ordered out and robbed of all their valuables.

The Mozambican army is incapable of implementing basic security measures in many areas.

Diplomats say there were no military convoys between Komatipoort and Maputo to ensure the safety of travellers because the Mozambican army could not spare the fuel, were short of trucks and lacked spares.

Last year Zimbabwean troops were moved to protect the vital road route through Tete province because the Mozambican army was unable to organise defence for supply trucks travelling through Mozambique to and from Malawi.

The Zimbabwean army is also in Mozambique protecting the Beira-Mutare pipeline.

Mr Kerry Curtis, manager of a truck company which used to operate in the area, said the Zimbabweans had been asked to move into the area because the Mozambican army had no vehicles for convoys.

Tanzanian troops are also in Mozambique protecting vital installations.

Last year South Africa organised military convoys through Zimbabwe to move military goods such as uniforms, medicines and even vehicles to the Mozambican army in Tete province.

In many areas Mozambique National Resistance rebels have resorted to banditry to ensure survival.

They were largely abandoned in the bush with their guns after the Nkomati Accord.

However a great number of rebels throughout the country continue to receive military supplies and launch attacks

with obvious political and economic aims.

Where is the MNR getting its supplies? There are several suspected areas of support.

It has become clear that Portuguese millionaire and Brazilian resident Mr Manuel Bulhosa has strong links with the rebels.

Portuguese sources said Mr Bulhosa was in Pretoria last week for talks and pointed out that he was in Maputo six months ago for talks with President Samora Machel.

Mr Evo Fernandes, MNR secretary-general, worked for Mr Bulhosa in Mozambique before independence and later in Portugal.

Mr Jorge Correia, MNR Lisbon spokesman, also worked for Mr Bulhosa in Lisbon.

Sources have warned that it would be naive to think a man like Mr Bulhosa could be the only source of support for the MNR.

West German right-wing leader Mr Franz Josef Strauss has close links with Mr Fernandes.

Portuguese sources disclosed that Mr Strauss would soon visit Mozambique in what appears to be another effort by Mozambican authorities to cut rebel links with their supporters.

Saudi Arabia has been mentioned as one of the main financial supporters of the MNR.

Mozambique has a Muslim population of about 3½ million and the country's biggest tribe, the Macuas, is made up almost totally of Muslims.

From Saudi Arabia supplies are known to have been flown to the Comoro Islands, an Islamic republic, from where they are flown into Mozambique.

Nothing short of a miracle could make Mozambique a secure, stable society for all its people.

MOZAMBIQUE

SHADOWY BACKER OF MNR REVEALED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 27 Jan 85 p 2

[Article by Brian Pottinger and Ken Pottinger]

[Text]

A FABULOUSLY wealthy Spaniard has emerged as a key backer of the rebel group Renamo, (MNR), now pushing the Nkomati Accord towards disaster.

Manuel Bulhosa met the South African Foreign Minister, Mr Pik Botha, two weeks ago and was warned of Pretoria's deep concern at his continuing support for the rebels.

South African government sources believe the man wields enormous power in Portuguese right-wing politics and over the MNR; even to the point of sabotaging the recent peace initiatives.

But in Lisbon's diplomatic circles it is suspected he is being made a scapegoat by Pretoria for the continuing failure of the Nkomati Accord to bring peace to war-ravaged Mozambique.

Powerful

The 82-year-old Bulhosa is a shadowy figure who has been closely involved with the MNR for some years. He once had enormous financial holdings in Mozambique — including oil — but was dispossessed by the coup.

He now lives in Brazil, is a major shareholder in a pub-

lishing house in Portugal, has farming interests in both countries and is said to have powerful contacts with Middle East oil interests.

Two top MNR officials — secretary-general Evo Fernandes and Jorge Correia — once worked for his Portuguese publishing house.

The Bulhosa connection has crucial importance for Pretoria in its efforts to keep Nkomati on track. The rebel forces in Mozambique — far from diminishing in strength after the cut-off in South Africa aid — have gone from strength to strength.

President Samora Machel of Mozambique — himself under intense pressure from radicals in his own party to show that Nkomati works — has alleged that the MNR is still receiving support from sympathisers in South Africa and perhaps even from individuals within the military establishment.

The dire straits in which Mozambique finds itself has forced Pretoria to solicit all the assistance it can in bringing its former protégés to heel, including a promise of Portuguese Government action against the MNR operating out of that country and an imminent clampdown on MNR supporters in South

Africa itself.

Sabotage

It is believed in South Africa that Bulhosa — with his Middle East contacts — is the financial lynchpin of the MNR, keeping weapons and equipment trickling to the MNR in Mozambique. Air drops are reportedly arranged from bush-strips in Malawi, Kenya and from the Comore Islands.

There have also been reports of Portuguese mercenaries being recruited for specialist sabotage missions. At one time it was even rumoured that mercenaries were being recruited in South Africa in contravention of the country's anti-mercenary laws.

Within the sparsely inhabited Mozambique, meanwhile, MNR guerrillas are apparently succeeding in keeping themselves partly equipped with weapons captured from the poorly motivated Frelimo soldiers.

The campaign of terror and sabotage — initiated with the aid of the Smith Rhodesian Government and allegedly continued with Pretoria's aid until Nkomati — has increased in intensity to the point where it is threatening the collapse of the Machel government.

Influence

Bulhosa's political influence on the MNR is also held to be significant. After the dramatic breakdown of the peace talks between MNR and Frelimo last October, there were reports that some members of the Portuguese Government linked to Bulhosa had actively sought the sabotage of the peace initiative — a claim later denied by the Portuguese Ministers concerned.

MOZAMBIQUE

ANTIBANDITRY CAMPAIGN WAGED BY FPLM UNITS DESCRIBED

Maputo TEMPO in Portuguese 27 Jan 85 pp 8-13

[Article by Filipe Ribas: "Mobile Units Advance With Determination in the Manhica Forests"]

[Text] Throughout the forests to the west of national Highway No 1 in the district of Manhica, covering an area extending to the environs of Moamba, young FAM [Armed Forces of Mozambique] soldiers are giving their best to drive out the armed bandits who are terrorizing the population living there. Mobile units in mixed battalions of our armed forces are continuously patrolling the sometimes dense forests, always in pursuit of the constantly fleeing enemy. On the long marches on which I accompanied these young men, I noted an uncommon dedication, more than I had previously supposed, and an invincible will to wage the battle against this cowardly enemy.

The knowledge that the enemy is constantly fleeing, avoiding a confrontation with our forces at all costs, along with a realization of the crimes and the barbarity the bandits leave behind them everywhere they go, lead the young soldiers to feel, more than those of us who are mere observers, redoubled hatred for those who disturb the peace in our country.

When I observed the combat readiness of these young men, it was hard for me to believe that these were men joined together by the simple fact of military incorporation. I never saw such a definite spirit of comradeship, profound friendship, uprightness and a high sense of hierarchy in the units stationed in Manhica as I saw in the mobile battalion.

In the mobile units, we met the officers who are assigned to missions often full of risk, but who believe that they should not be entrusted to a simple soldier. In the midst of the forest, on the night of 3 January, we met a second lieutenant, alone, who was traveling a distance of about 12 kilometers to carry an urgent message to another position, while at the same time he took the opportunity to reconnoiter the zone. His colleagues simply call him "lieutenant," and he is widely known for deeds of this sort. His colleagues say that he has trained himself to handle a bazooka, precisely in order to be able to travel more freely deep into the forest.

We also saw such examples among the captains, first lieutenants and officer candidates who, faced with the need to traverse a certain zone regarded as

dangerous in order to carry out some mission or other, have not hesitated to do so. On some of these missions, various of these officers have shown no fear of spending the night alone, hidden in the heart of the forest, provided this would enable them to carry out their task. It is these aspects of dedication to their work which have made the forest in question a place which is not very safe now for the bandits still to be found there.

There in the forest, where the objective and the certainty is to triumph, both large and small privations go very simply unnoticed.

Fine-combing the Forest.

During one of the sweeps in which I participated, beginning in the morning and ending about 2100 hours, I was truly impressed by the way in which the entire force engaged in the operation gave no indication either of fatigue or of hunger. Moreover, when the captain commanding the force asked the soldiers if they wanted to stop for a short rest to consume their combat rations, the men responded in unison that the march should continue.

It was no mere happenstance that the bandit Armando Nhabanga, whom I had the opportunity of introducing to our readers in the last issue, was assigned the task of reconnoitering the environs of Incoloane, where the bandits were attempting to establish a new camp, since they can look forward to no peace in the forests. The actions of the armed bandits there have in fact been compromised by the constant sallies carried out by the mobile units.

The courage of these soldiers who refuse to remain stationary for any longer than it takes to obtain information on the movements of the armed bandits led me to conclude that if they had been assigned the task of patrolling the areas of roadway regarded as dangerous, many catastrophes could have been avoided. It was this mobile battalion which succeeded in clearing the forest in Vundica, a zone which earlier in time was a nest of bandits. It was the members of this battalion who destroyed an important enemy base in the neighborhood of Matalane, in which many bandits, including the chief, fell.

The traditional practice is to advance in deployed formation, and never in a column, in order to sweep a broader area and to cover all of the probable hideouts of the bandits with a fine-toothed comb. These soldiers always advance in absolute silence, like true hunters, unlike other groups I have had the opportunity to accompany, who whistle and hum as they march.

At each position where a company of this battalion has established itself temporarily, one will find a group of captured armed bandits, a group of informers and collaborators. During my stay among these men, I saw seven bandits they had captured and 10 other informers and collaborators awaiting transfer to the town of Manhica.

Veterans of the Forest

All of these young men have already done more than 2 years of compulsory military service, with all of this time spent within the forest, from Manica, Inhambane and Gaza to Maputo. It must certainly be their long war experience

which makes them bold and the kind of men who could not immediately fit into any of the vocations civilian life could offer. "Am I going to leave the forest only because my 2 years of compulsory military service are up? Am I going to let the enemy I want so much to kill continue here, just because I have completed my 2 years in the military? If I were demobilized, leaving things as they are, this would be a kind of defeat for me," 2nd Lt Thomas Silvano Mangué, who has served in the FAM since 1977, told us.

I am reporting here some talks I had with some of the soldiers in the mobile battalion, talks which gave me a certain satisfaction. Januario Bulasse Bomben, a young native of Mueda, in the Province of Cabo Delgado, joined the forces early in 1981, and from that time to this, his life has been in the forest. Januario, a soldier who is a mortar expert, and with whom we talked during the sweep operation we mentioned, can hardly see what he could begin to do in the short run if he were demobilized. His family today is his comrades in the section, the platoon, the company and the battalion.

We wanted to know what exploit which occurred in his zone of movement is freshest in his memory, as a soldier in a mobile battalion. "The most difficult battle I fought took place in Moamba, where we were ambushed by a large number of armed bandits. As this was dense forest, I had no opportunity to put my mortar to use. I could not use my weapon to respond to enemy fire. Later I found myself forced to get my AKM and begin to fire on the armed bandits. When I speak of the most difficult battle, I do not mean we lost many comrades, but the problem is I had never had the experience of being unable to open fire with the mortar, which might have killed more bandits. And then, I had not had the experience as a soldier of having to stop and wait for the others to fight, which might give the attacker a small advantage."

In the other continuing battles in his advances through the forest, our interlocutor explained that the conditions in the terrain always favored the use of his weapon. Thanks to this fact, he told us, he had seen many bandits fall, the victims of his weapon.

Lt Tomas Silvano Mangué, to whom we referred previously, is a native of Maputo, and joined the forces in 1977. It has thus been 8 years he has served in the defense of the fatherland in the ranks of our army. "I have a whole career behind me. In 1977, I was trained as a tactics and weapons instructor. Following completion of the course, I was assigned to accompany a battalion to Manica. For 2 years, I operated in Manica and Sofala.

"I remember that once, when we were en route from Espungabera to attack one of the armed bandits' bases, we were ambushed. On the first attack, we had to retreat, because we were in danger of losing some comrades, and the bandits had ambushed us in difficult terrain. During the sally we then immediately undertook, the bandits retreated and took up positions at their base. Days later, we succeeded in destroying the base of the armed bandits who had caused us so much difficulty, and we inflicted many casualties upon the enemy. In the end we camped at that base and reorganized the life of the people. I as a soldier believe that my best moments were those during which I had various encounters with the enemy," the lieutenant added.

"Here in the province of Maputo, I have encountered the most varied situations, either in terms of the actions of the armed bandits or the conduct of some of the elements in the population unenlightened about the criminal nature of the armed bandits. In one of these fine-combing operations, right here where we are, we seized collaborators with the armed bandits. One day, I went into an isolated hut where I found a family and asked if they had seen any FRELIMO troops pass. Believing me to be an armed bandit, the head of the family welcomed me rather warmly and said he had important information to pass on. Look, he told me, the FRELIMO soldiers passed less than 10 minutes ago, and it seems they were killed by 'our people,' because I heard some shots and then their movements ceased, just near here. The old fellow said that there would be no problem, because the FRELIMO soldiers spent their lives fleeing and that, if I wanted, I could stay the night there, because the following day, a group of 'our people,' and thus bandits, would come. Thus I learned that there existed some very dangerous elements because of the way they collaborated with the enemy."

From this statement by the lieutenant, I came to understand that many of the collaborators with the bandits did so deliberately, and that for the purpose of pleasing the leaders of the armed bandits, they even go so far as to say that our forces are fleeing.

Valentim Fernando Nguenha, a native of the locality of Calanga in the district of Manhica, is a young soldier, trained to use a bazooka, who joined the FAM early in 1981. This young man, who has a thorough knowledge of the region, of all of the trails, shortcuts and dense little thickets, as well as a certain number of points of reference, is characterized by extraordinary courage and determination. His superiors in the hierarchy often use the most complimentary terms in speaking of him.

One of the most frequently mentioned events in which this young man showed great expertise in the handling of his weapon was the attack on a major bandit base in Machiche, near Manhica. He himself told us about it. "This was a battle which lasted 15 minutes, a period of intensive firing. In the attack, we succeeded in bringing down the commander of the bandits. I was the first to fire a bazooka, which scored a direct hit on a building in which a number of bandits were gathered," the young Nguenha told us. In Xicochane, during an attack on a heavily fortified bandit camp, this young man was cited by his superiors for praiseworthy action.

It was, finally, young men like these with whom we talked, and whom we had the opportunity to see praised and admired by their own comrades and superiors. They are currently waging an unceasing battle against the armed bandits who are trying to hold the fort. It can certainly be said that the mobile units are doing very positive work, and it cannot be of them that we demand an accounting concerning the tragic events which continually characterize life along national Highway No 1.

5157

CSO: 3442/167

MOZAMBIQUE

BRIEFS

RAIL TRAFFIC SUSPENDED--MBABANE--Rail traffic between Swaziland and Mozambique has been suspended after a freight train was attacked just inside the Mozambique border. Armed men are reported to have opened fired on a Swazi train on Sunday. It is believed the Mozambique National Resistance was responsible. A spokesman for Swaziland Railways said today that traffic on the route, from central Swaziland to Maputo, had been suspended from Monday to allow the Mozambique army to tighten security along the line. The spokesman said imports and exports were now piling up on both sides of the border. [Text] [Johannesburg THE STAR in English 30 Jan 85 p 1]

CSO: 3400/531

NAMIBIA

SWAPO PROMISES TO INTENSIFY ARMED STRUGGLE

Harare THE HERALD in English 28 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] Armed struggle is to be intensified in Namibia to convince Pretoria that the continued illegal occupation of the country is futile, says the chief representative of Swapo at the United Nations, Cde Theo-Ben Gurirab.

He told The Herald on Friday: "There is need to intensify the armed struggle on all fronts and we must know who the enemy is and which forces are giving support and encouragement to the enemy.

"But we must also on the other hand see how we can continue to mobilise our friends to continue giving assistance to Swapo, the People's Liberation Army and the people of Namibia to be their own liberators."

Cde Gurirab, who is also a member of Swapo's political bureau, denounced the current diplomatic activity by the United States Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Dr Chester Crocker, saying it had "nothing to do with what we ought to be discussing on Namibia, that is the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 435", which calls for the holding of free and fair elections in Namibia under the supervision and control of the UN.

"If anything, the current flow of activities spearheaded by Dr Crocker are primarily intended to delay the independence of Namibia and buy time for the racist regime to put in place and actually entrench apartheid institutions," he said.

"Preposterous as it may sound," he said, Dr Crocker was also trying to buy time for the racist regime of Pretoria to find an alternative to Swapo through the local puppets that were being bought and bribed to perpetuate confusion in Namibia.

The Swapo leader said such activities were also an attempt to remove the issue of genuine independence of Namibia, "from the centre of Africa's concern".

But it was imperative, he said, that the "settlement that must come to Namibia must be the right one because a wrong settlement for Namibia will continue to endanger the independence and security of the other countries in the region".

Namibia was of strategic importance not only because of the natural resources which it had, but because it had a long coastline and was so much intertwined with South Africa's security, economic and political arrangements.

"To have a puppet regime in Namibia will continue to provide South Africa with a convenient operations base, not only against Angola, but against other progressive countries surrounding Namibia."

CSO: 3400/626

NAMIBIA

COUNTRY FACES MOUNTING HUNGER PROBLEM

Durban THE DAILY NEWS in English 25 Jan 85 p 5

[Text]

WINDHOEK: SWA/Namibia faces a mounting hunger problem as the seasonal rains continue to hold off, and unemployment — especially in the dry southern farmlands — leaves thousands without means to buy food.

The Red Cross in SWA/Namibia is continuing to supply supplementary food for 20 000 schoolchildren in the southern regions of Namaland and Rehoboth as well as in the north-western Kaokoland.

But the organisation's regional director, Mrs Ruth Kiwi, says Red Cross funds are dwindling.

"The problem is now worse than it has ever been, and we need help desperately.

"If the rains come this year we will still

have to continue the feeding programme for at least another year. If the rains don't fall, I hate to think what might happen," she said.

The Red Cross began providing rations for one hot meal a day at schools in Kaokoland and Namaland in 1982, and the distribution of the food has since been taken over by the Department of National Health and Welfare.

Mrs Kiwi says there has been a 12-15 per cent increase in school attendance at Namaland schools since the feeding programme began "because the children know they will at least get one hot meal a day."

There have been no reports of child deaths

related to hunger in recent years.

The chief of public hygiene in SWA/Namibia, Mr Michiel Mans, said the situation had not yet become as serious as in 1981, when at least three children died of malnutrition.

But after one of the driest Decembers and Januaries on record, Mr Man fears the situation could deteriorate rapidly. Good rains fell in Kaokoland last year, providing grazing for the badly depleted cattle population of the rugged region.

But reports from the south say that hundreds of unemployed people are being dumped in the black townships of centres like Keetmans-

hoop and Karasburg, because the sheep farmers cannot afford to keep them on their lands.

Meanwhile the Nama second tier authority has announced that it is being forced to stop its feeding subsidies to about a thousand families, because funds have dried up.

"If we don't get rain in the next month or two, then we will really have trouble on our hands," Mr Mans said.

The Red Cross has appealed to Southern African aid organisations to help with funds.

The Red Cross in SWA/Namibia received nearly R250 000 in aid last year — about R25 000 of it from South African or Namibian donors. Most of the aid comes from Austria and West Germany.

CSO: 3400/626

NAMIBIA

CIVIL SERVANTS' SALARIES EXCEED COUNTRY'S REVENUE

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 24 Jan 85 p 1

[Text]

THE SALARIES and wages of Namibia's civil servants, including fringe benefits exceeded the country's revenue from own sources, while unemployment has doubled in the past nine years.

While Namibia earned something like R550m from own revenue, the total salary and wage package of bureaucrats was estimated at roughly R600m.

This emerged during an open discussion at last night's meeting of the Namibia Educational Forum, addressed by Secretary for Finance, Dr Johan Jones, on The Interaction Between Public Finance and the National Economy in SWA/-Namibia.

Dr Jones dealt with aspects of the economic scene which he described as "the subject of frequent arguments, accusations and wild guesses". And he had to field pointed and vigorous questions from a lively audience.

As far as unemployment was concerned he said available statistics were not very reliable and it was also difficult to make comparisons with other countries, but this was not unusual.

He used as his starting point statistics for the years 1969, 1973, 1975 and 1984 from the latest

Manpower Survey, released yesterday.

The total population figures for these years were 739 000, 832 000, 879 000 and 1 150 000 respectively.

He said by subtracting the total number of people productively employed in these years, based partly on the Manpower Survey figures and estimates by the Department of Finance, unemployment percentages could be arrived at.

These were 10,5% in 1969, 10,7% in 1973, a slight increase to 12,3% in 1975 and then a rapid increase to 20,6% in 1984.

Dr Jones said while unemployment of 10 or 12% was "not at all high for a developing country", the doubling of the percentage unemployed within a space of nine years "was a different matter".

However, there were several considerations which had to be borne in mind.

An aggravating factor was the "chronic problem of the uncertainty over the country's political future". This had a

depressing effect on investment and business in general Dr Jones said.

However, Dr Jones emphasized he did not underestimate the seriousness of the unemployment problem but added "the room for manoeuvre is very limited at the moment".

He said the situation could be further dramatized by looking at the number of entrants to the labour market.

"The average annual number of entrants .. over the period 1975 - 1984 was about 8 700," Dr Jones said.

"Of this total only an average of 2 035, or 23%, could be accommodated in the labour market annually."

He felt that under these circumstances people couldn't be blamed for becoming disillusioned with economy or the system. But he urged them to take a "long hard look at the long-term achievements of alternative systems before coming to final conclusions".

Turning to the "hotly-debated subject" of Namibia's "bloated" or "exploding" bureaucracy, Dr Jones said it was true the number of public sector employees had increased "significantly" over the last few years.

They had grown from 34 959 in 1980 to 51 906 in 1984. However, "the real point is not whether the numbers have increased but to what extent this increase was justified and what its effect on the economy was," Dr Jones said.

The rapid rise did not represent newly created employment opportunities but "rather a shift of employment opportunities from South Africa to SWA."

Dr Jones added that if the additional 18 000 public sector employees between 1980 and 1984 had not been so employed it did not follow that they

would have been employed in the private sector.

"On the contrary, judging by the increase in unemployment over the same period ... it seems more likely they would have further swelled the ranks of the unemployed," he said.

Further, many of these bureaucrats performed important functions "for you and me".

As far as the much-maligned Representative Authorities were concerned, Dr Jones said to his mind "the abolition of these authorities is not a panacea which would solve all our problems".

If second tier authorities were to be abolished "as some people advocate", these functions would still have to be performed "in much the same way and on much the same scale".

He said a rationalisation of the functions might make it possible to slightly reduce numbers but this would only be "minimal".

CSO: 3400/633

NAMIBIA

HAMUKWAYA CASE SETTLED OUT OF COURT BY RSA GOVERNMENT

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 28 Jan 85 p 3

[Text]

IN A DRAMATIC out-of-court settlement on Friday, the South African Government agreed to pay R88 701,00 in settlement of claims involving an alleged unlawful killing and a series of assaults committed by members of the Koevoet unit of the Security Police.

Trials of these actions, concerning events in Kavango in late 1982 and early 1983, had been set down for hearing during February and March this year.

In the main settlement Mrs Katrina Hamukwaya, widow of a schoolteacher, Mr Jona Hamukwaya, who died after being taken into custody by Koevoet, was paid R58 000.

Mr Hamukwaya died on November 18 1982 hours after being detained by

members of the special operations unit of the SA Security Police.

At an inquest hearing in Rundu during October 1983, white members of Koevoet gave evidence that Mr Hamukwaya had died "after falling down a flight of steps" at Nkurenkuru.

Other witnesses testified to hearing an assault being carried out on the banks of the Kavango River.

The inquest magistrate, Mr A H Coetzer, assisted by Professor TG Schwar, chief pathologist at Tygerberg Hospital, found "the death was caused by an act or omission on the part of members of the unit known as Koevoet".

In further expert summaries filed in the Supreme Court on behalf of Mrs Hamukwaya, Dr Jonathan Gluckman - who testified in both the Biko and Aggett inquests - and Dr Johan van der Spuy, head

of the trauma unit at Groote Schuur Hospital, said Mr Hamukwaya's injuries indicated he had been dragged and subjected to massive trauma on his back, probably inflicted by a blunt object or objects.

In their view he died from a head injury.

The other claims concerned a series of alleged assaults by Koevoet.

Damages were claimed for alleged pain and suffering experienced by the claimants and injury to their dignity and feelings.

Ms Paulinus Imelide, Mr Raimbert Kudumu, Mr Frans Majira, Mr Patrick Katanga, Mr Petrus Ugwanga, Mr Petrus Amukoshi and Mr Petrus Shekuya are to receive sums varying from between R2 000 and R5 000, together with the Supreme Court costs of their actions.

This is the first settlement of damages against Koevoet, who have repeatedly been accused of atrocities against civilians, in Namibian legal history.

The settlement was reached by Mr Jeremy Gauntlett, instructed by Mr Hartmut Ruppel of Lorenz and Bone, and Mr S Maritz, acting for the SA Government.

It could not be ascertained at the time of going to press whether court proceedings have been instituted against Koevoet members as a result of Mr Hamukwaya's death.

The settlements precede the trial of Archbishop Denis Hurley of the Roman Catholic Church in Pretoria next month on charges under the Police Act relating to the alleged falsity of a statement by him stating that members of Koevoet had committed a series of unlawful acts in Namibia.

CSO: 3400/633

NAMIBIA

CATHOLIC BISHOPS EXPRESS DISMAY AT VIOLENCE IN COUNTRY

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 28 Jan 85 p 3

[Text]

PRETORIA: The Southern African Catholic Bishops' Conference has released its report on a recent tour of Namibia, during which the clergymen were told of growing militarisation in the Territory and of atrocities committed by white and black troops.

The SACBC, which previously carried out a controversial report on Namibia in 1982, delivered the report at a plenary session in Pretoria.

As part of an ecumenical delegation, including Anglican and Lutheran representatives, the SACBC toured the Territory for five days last October, also meeting with Church representatives and the Administrator-General, Dr Willie van Niekerk.

In Oniipa, the SACBC said, it came across reports

of an anti-Swapo group called Etanga, which was referred to as a cultural body.

"But in reality it (Etanga) seemed to be a project promoted by the

security forces to win "the minds and hearts" of the Owambo people," according to the SACBC.

A handbill attributed to Etanga and allegedly distributed by the Army, the SACBC said, urged people to report on Swapo.

The conference included in its report a translation of the document, which promised "rewards) of up to R20 000 for reporting Swapo fighters "to Etanga the Protector".

The SACBC said South Africa bore a great burden of responsibility for the "tragic situation" in Namibia.

"The war is devastating Namibia and depressing its people," according to the report.

According to the Churches of Namibia, un-

der Bishop Bonifatius Haushiku, the process of militarisation was being vigorously pursued and the SWA Territory Force built up with local recruits.

In Tsumeb, the delegation met with residents "who spoke of atrocities inflicted by the security forces, especially

Koevoet. The SACBC referred specifically to a woman who lost her husband, mother-in-law and child during an attack on their hut by one white and four black soliers.

At Tondoro, a shopkeeper told the delegation that Koevoet had detained him in a windowless tin shack for 121 days because he had served members of Swapo at his store.

The SACBC said it had expressed its dismay at the continuing violence to Dr van Niekerk, who had replied that the Namibian people had invited the security forces into the Territory.

The SACBC said it asked Dr van Niekerk, "why the view of Church leaders was so different from the view expressed by himself in regard to the attitude of the Namibian people."

In reply, the SACBC said, Dr van Niekerk "opened a discussion on religion and politics and said he did not think it was necessary to use the services of the Churches to discover what the majority of the Namibian people really thought and felt."

CSO: 3400/633

NAMIBIA

NAUDE SAYS CHURCH HAS LIBERATION ROLE

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 1 Feb 85 p 3

[Text]

THERE WERE many "frightening parallels" and areas of common concern between South Africa and Namibia, the new General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Dr Beyers Naude, said in Katutura last night.

In a keynote address to the biennial conference of the CCN, Dr Naude dealt with wide-ranging aspects of the "Church in the Struggle for Liberation and Independence".

Although he essentially drew on his SA experience, Dr Naude said there were many similarities to Namibia.

These included:

- The increasing militarisation "of the whole of society by the SA Defence Force";
- "The principle of ethnic division as the criteria for

determining political structures and rights"; and,

- The lack of "meaningful" opposition to and rejection by Western nations of the SA Government's policies.

He also rejected the constructive engagement policy of the USA as "disastrous".

Dr Naude said that in the light of the teachings of Christ and the demands of the Gospel, it was clearly part of the Church's mandate and mission to "concern itself with the struggle for liberation in any country".

This was evident in God's "equal love" for all mankind and God's concern for justice and peace.

He said "the tragedy of apartheid" was creating "an almost unbridgeable gulf between white and black".

Areas of crisis included:

- The new constitutional dispensation — where

ethnic division was finally entrenched — which "is a source of ongoing and increasing bitterness, hatred and strife";

- Education — "I cannot envisage that there will be peaceful development of the educational life" of the black, coloured and Indian communities "as long as the root cause of educational dissatisfaction remains untouched";

- Economic — not only as the result of recession, the falling gold price, etc, "but also because of the rising expectations of millions of black workers"; and

- Church divisions based on race.

Turning to the responsibility of the churches in the struggle for liberation, Dr Naude felt it was essential for the Church to define for itself "the true nature of the struggle in SA", whether it was one of race, class or religion; it

had a responsibility to raise and increase awareness about the nature of evil and injustice as well as a "moral obligation to stand in solidarity with all victims of injustice".

But more than this, the responsibility of the Church was to seek clarity on "the nature of the alternative society".

This did not imply the Church wanted to become involved in practical politics but that it had a deep concern that the foundations of a more just society were laid firmly and soundly according to Christian criteria of justice, peace and truth.

He concluded by saying it was of vital importance that the Christian presence and participation in the struggle for liberation "should be seen, should be expressed and should be accepted" by those struggling to free themselves from injustice and suffering.

CSO: 3400/633

NAMIBIA

IMPORTANT QUESTIONS RAISED ABOUT KUDU GAS FIELD

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 30 Jan 85 p 7

[Article by Jean Sutherland]

[Text]

QUESTIONS continue to arise over the issue of the Kudu gasfield, particularly as to whether Namibia will benefit fully from this potentially rich deposit.

Fears that once again Namibians will have to negotiate for benefits from their own natural resources have not been removed despite reassurances to the contrary.

This came strongly to the fore at a meeting of the Namibia Educational Forum in Windhoek last week and was underlined by controversial local businessman Mr Eric Lang.

Fears have been further aggravated by a report in the Afrikaans newspaper Rapport on Sunday where the gasfield is mentioned in terms of providing SA's future fuel requirements in an article on the possibility of SA acquiring "three new Sasols".

DISTRUST

Secretary of Finance, Dr Johan Jones, who addressed the meeting on the Namibian economy, had to field repeated questions directly related to distrust

of South African involvement with Namibia's finances. Not least the Kudu gasfield.

Mr Lang felt this mistrust towards SA was the most important thing to emerge from the meeting and added it was not confined to the meeting but existed throughout the country.

In a subsequent interview with The Advertiser, he elaborated on pertinent questions being asked about the Kudu gasfield, which have not yet been satisfactorily dealt with.

They include:

- What is going to be in it for SWA and who is going to represent SWA's interests?

- Are we going to end up in the same situation as with Rössing where Namibians hold no equity and where equity is held by SA interests?

- Will there be any benefit apart from taxes?

- What will be done with the gas? Will it be taken to some other country?

SIGNIFICANT

Mr Lang said the Kudu gasfield could prove the most significant factor in

the Namibian economy. And although figures being bandied around at the moment meant nothing and were unsubstantiated, these questions needed to be answered nonetheless.

If the resource proved as valuable as the country's diamond resources, Mr Lang added, "we should look to our neighbour, Botswana, for advice on how to get the fairest benefit".

"We should be looking for a greater share than a purely tax income," he said. "Historically this has shown we end up being manipulated so that the tax share of the resources becomes an insignificant share of the whole."

SWAKOR SHARES

Sapa reported last week that all shares in Swakor, the Namibian sister company of Soekor, were locally held. And further, that the announcement of the proposed development of the Kudu gasfield had been preceded by talks between the Administrator General, Dr Willie van Niekerk, the SA Department of Foreign Affairs and Soekor.

At the same time The Advertiser learnt that the First National Develop-

ment Corporation (Enok) is the sole shareholder in Swakor and that all shares in Enok are held by the AG.

Mr Johan Lerm of Enok, and one of the directors of Swakor, told The Advertiser that as far as the gasfield was concerned, Swakor was the licence holder and Soekor the concession holder. In terms of this Soekor could "exploit" the area, but "nothing can actually happen without the OK of the Swakor Board".

As far as benefits were concerned, Mr Lerm said "that will be negotiated but we will get something out of it".

RIGHTS

Earlier a Soekor spokesman told The Advertiser that as they had mining rights they would produce the gas but pay taxes to the government concerned. This was confirmed at the time by a local Swakor director.

At the NEF meeting, however, Dr Jones, also a Swakor director, stressed Namibia would benefit fully from the gasfield but did not elaborate.

Partly because of the history surrounding the gasfield, where a strike was made in 1974, many local businessmen and politi-

cians remain non-believers.

DELAY

Newspaper reports at the time of the strike indicated Soekor was going to continue with explorations to determine the size of the "large gasfield" imminently.

And then nothing more was apparently heard until the announcement that the SA Department of Foreign Affairs had given the go-ahead on the development of the gasfield. To all intents and purposes it looked as if SA had arbitrarily held back development of the gasfield.

At the NEF meeting Mr Lang said as far as he knew "no-one in this country knew what was going on with the exception of the Minister of Foreign Affairs".

He maintained the matter of the oil deposit had been handled on a ministerial level by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

"All the negotiations and all the actual work was done by Soekor (for Swakor)," he said. "They also signed an agreement with Chevron and Regent (the original shareholders) and as far as I know Swakor never received a copy of that agreement."

He believed the AG now had a copy.

REASON

The initial report in The Sunday Times quoted a Foreign Affairs spokesman as saying development of the gasfield had not been considered earlier for political reasons.

On the other hand, Dr Jones advanced, as a possible reason, the lack of appropriate technology at the time as well as the fact that oil was being looked for and not gas. Another factor was the cost of drilling.

Sunday's report in Rapport said it is speculated that the Kudu gasfield could supply 40 to 50% of SA's fuel requirements "if the product was transported directly to the refineries in Cape Town".

However, the report notes "there is some hesitation about the profitable investment of money to develop the field as South West may one day become independent."

It was also indicated in an SABC report this week by the Director-General of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Dr Louw Alberts, that feasibility studies were being carried out on three possible processes by which "fuel can be obtained for SA". The report said he believed the studies would be successful.

NAMIBIA

DROUGHT-STRICKEN FARMERS GET HUGE AID BOOST

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 31 Jan 85 p 3

[Text]

AN ESTIMATED R3m has been earmarked to enable farmers to stay on their farms for the months of February and March, part of an emergency aid plan announced yesterday by the Administration for Whites.

This means that in some cases, farmers will be receiving a subsidy for these two months on large and smallstock, double the aid granted in previous drought aid plans.

The plan is specifically designed to avert the crisis of between 30 to 40% of

the territory's 4 500 farmers leaving their farms.

Some of the farmers who will benefit from the new aid are burdened with debts of R300 000 and more.

Subsidies have doubled. The sum of R2,50 for sheep, goats and small game species for example, has now become R5,00 and where the former subsidy came to a maximum of R12,50 for large stock, it now becomes R25,00.

Whereas subsidies for farmers in the former drought aid plan came to a monthly payment of R6000 000, it will now also double for the period

March and February, eventually representing an estimated R3m.

According to Dr Piet le Roux, Director of Agriculture of the Administration for Whites, individual indebtedness of certain farmers topped the quarter million rand mark and many others had an indebtedness of R200 000.

During January, he said, approximately 450 farmers resorted under phases three and four of the drought aid plan.

It was also recommended that no invoices be required for fodder purchases during these two months and that payments be made according to

January claims and invoices handed in at a later stage.

It was also stipulated that stock be removed from grazing to facilitate the recovery of grazing lands, and that the maximum stocking of 60% still be valid as a qualification for the subsidy, that the qualification for the subsidy on stock feeding be increased to 80% in regard to stock capacity per hectare and that short term hire purchases be accepted, and finally, that the tariffs applicable for stock feeding loans be increased to R10 per head per month for large stock and R2,00 per head monthly for small stock.

CSO: 3400/633

NAMIBIA

BRIEFS

GAS BELONGS TO SWA NOT RSA--Any gas or oil resources which might be in or off the coast of Namibia, belonged to the Territory and would be developed for its benefit, a spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs said in Cape Town at the weekend. He was reacting to a statement last week by Swakor, Namibia's equivalent of the Soekor Exploration Corporation, an SA Government utility corporation controlling all oil and related explorations, on possible exploration of the Kudu gasfield, Sapa reported. The Foreign Affairs spokesman reiterated the SA Government's stated position that: "Whatever gas or oil resources there may be in Namibia or off its shores, are the property of SWA/Namibia. Such resources will be developed for the Territory." Swakor is wholly owned by Enok, whose sole shareholder is the Administrator General of SWA. In its statement last week, Swakor confirmed that it is "presently busy with negotiations with the concession-holder Soekor, on further investigation of the gas resource." "The increased fuel prices and the advance of technology offer the conversion of natural gas into liquid fuels" had caused Soekor to go ahead with further exploration of the Kudu field," the statement added. [Text] [Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 6 Feb 85 p 7]

CSO: 3400/633

NIGERIA

NAVY REPORTEDLY ACQUIRING SAPELE PORT FOR SECURITY REASONS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 28 Jan 85 p 9

[Text]

THE Nigerian Navy said in Lagos that it acquired the Sapele port for security and logistics reasons.

The Naval Director of Information, Commander O. A. Oladimeji said in a statement that the port was taken over with the permission of the Federal Military Government.

According to him, the port, since it was built, had been under-utilised in spite of the fact that it has major facilities required by the navy for its operational efficiency.

The Navy, he said, had over the years been making strenuous efforts to acquire an exclusive port which would not be shared with merchant marine.

Commander Oladimeji said that the Navy was therefore delighted "to have an exclusive port, which among other uses, will serve as a quiet location for a

host of activities like central naval logistics, storage and technical training."

He said these facilities would have been provided at a great cost, adding that the Navy would absorb as many civilian workers of the port as possible after they had been screened.

He also assured companies now using the port that convenient alternatives like Warri, Koko, Burutu, Escravos and Forcados were always available for their use.

The Navy is expected to take over the Sapele Port formally in March this year.

Meanwhile, the Commandant of the Command and Staff College Jaji, Brigadier Paul Omu has commended the Nigerian Navy for its intensive activities to modernise and increase its capabilities.

CSO: 3400/501

NIGERIA

PROGRESS REPORTED IN MOVE TO ABUJA

Over 113 Million Naira

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 24 Jan 85 p 16

[Article by Mike Reis]

[Text]

THE Federal Capital Territory will spend a sum of 113,392,110 Naira for its services this financial year.

This amount excludes a 370,000,000 Naira already approved for the territory by the Federal Military Government.

Of the amount, 36,419,110 Naira would go for recurrent expenditure, while 76,973,000 Naira would be for capital projects.

Announcing the budget yesterday, the Minister of the Territory Major-General Mamman Jiya Vatsa, said estimated local revenue would go up this year as many sources of revenue which would be fully tapped had been discovered within the territory.

Estimated local revenue to be generated this year, the minister said, is put at 12,980,160 Naira, compared to the 1,175,225.50

Naira projected for last year.

General Vatsa said the recurrent revenue from Federal Government treasury would go down from 67 million Naira to 20 million Naira because recurrent subvention due to the Federal Capital Development Authority would now be paid from the local resources of the Federal Capital Territory.

Similarly, General Vatsa said the amount due from the Federation Account would go down to 80 million Naira from 98 million Naira because of the financial difficulty the nation was facing.

He said the early part of last year was devoted to cleaning up the mess created by the ousted civilian regime, adding that a firm foundation for the administration of the capital had now been set up, with the creation of nine departments to provide services for the territory.

The departments are agriculture, education, commerce and industry, health, social welfare, legal, public works, judiciary and general administration.

Giving a breakdown of the budget, General Vatsa said education would receive 19,211,860 Naira, health would get 12,693,830 Naira and transportation 16,500,000 Naira.

General Vatsa said 15,750,000 Naira had been allocated for the supply and distribution of electricity to local government areas within the capital, while 2,750,000 Naira had been allocated for the development of water resources, sewage and drainage within the territory.

He said establishments of small-scale industries in the territory would be encouraged, adding that 600,000 Naira had been earmarked for this purpose.

Civil Servants To Move

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 24 Jan 85 p 16

[Text]

ABOUT 25,000 civil servants and their families will move to Abuja when the first phase of the movement to the new capital begins next year.

This was made known yesterday by the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Major-General Vatsa, during his budget speech.

General Vatsa said before the movement starts, all units of federal ministries currently operating in the territory would return to their parent ministries in Lagos.

He said those whose ministries would be involved in the movement to the new federal capital would, however, be allowed to remain behind.

General Vatsa also announced a minor re-organisation in the schedule of duties of some officials in the territory.

He said the managing director of the Federal Capital Development Authority (FCDA) would now devote most of his time to supervision and co-ordination of all technical operations in the ter-

ritory, while the administrative and financial operations of the territory would be the responsibility of the permanent secretary, Ministry of the Federal Capital Territory.

He said all decisions on land matters, including planning and survey, would be taken by the minister of the territory on the recommendation of the inter-departmental committee to be established soon.

The committee which would have members drawn from various departments, would advise the minister on the planning, development and administration of land throughout the territory, he said.

CSO: 3400/501

NIGERIA

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON DRYING DAMS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 25 Jan 85 pp 1, 11

[Article by Yusuf Ozi Usman]

[Text]

INTER-BASIN transfer of water as a long-term measure to arrest the threat posed to people

in the Northern part of the country by the drying up of major dams had been suggested.

Alhaji Magaji Abdullahi, a water resources engineer and Managing Director of Water Resources and Engineering Construction Agency in Kano said inter-basin transfer of water was being practiced in other parts of the world to solve acute water problems.

Alhaji Magaji said in an interview with *New Nigerian* that though the method involved was expensive and sophisticated, its benefit to the people was enormous.

He explained that inter-basin transfer of water could be done either by dredging and diverting the flow of water from Benue or Niger Rivers to needy dams in the country or creating artificial rivers to where water could be transferred from the basins.

The most efficient method was by pumping water at high pressures but this, he said, was 'very expensive'.

Alhaji Magaji pointed out that the recent threats to several dams by drought was becoming a cause for concern to water

engineers and government adding that short-term measures such as stopping unnecessary use of water should be adopted.

He said WRECA which built the Tiga Dam had a hydrological station in the dam to monitor the daily level of water there through which it was discovered that water in it was decreasing alarmingly.

He said over the past four years, rainfall had decreased from 40 inches to an average of 19 inches bringing the total quantity of water in the dam to about 40 per cent of what it should be.

"Now to fill the dam, you need two years of above average rainfall which is about 950 million cubic litres on yearly basis," he explained.

Other dams threatened by the drying-up menace, he said, include two in Kazaure, the Kafin-Gana and Toma.

Alhaji Magaji noted that it was unfortunate that mankind up till now had no control over nature.

The only way we could solve all natural problems, he said, was to use technological know-how.

CSO: 3400/501

NIGERIA

DAM TO BE REACTIVATED TO IMPROVE FARMING

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 29 Jan 85 p 9

[Article by Waziri Garba]

[Text]

KATINI dam project in Ningi Local Government area of Bauchi State is to be reactivated to encourage all-season farming in the area, the state Commissioner for Agriculture Alhaji Dahiru Jibir Gombe has said.

Contract for the construction of the dam was awarded in 1983 by the defunct civilian administration in the state but work on it was later suspended.

The Commissioner said at the opening of the Bauchi division of the agricultural show in Ningi at the weekend that unfavourable weather in the state necessitated the reactivation of the dam to boost all-year farming.

The project design is expected to be completed this year and construction will take off soon after. Alhaji Jibir said.

When completed, the Katini dam would provide dry season irrigation facilities on an area of about 1,900 hectares of land.

The commissioner appealed to farmers present at the agricultural exhibition to avail themselves of the various seeds,

agricultural extension services and other new developments in agriculture at the show and embark on large-scale irrigated farming.

Government he said, would assist all interested farmers in the state, adding that farmers in Warji, Dass, Toro and Duguri areas were already benefitting from the dry season "fadama" programme of the state Ministry of Agriculture and the Bauchi State Agricultural Development Programme.

Alhaji Dahiru also disclosed that the ministry was stepping up precautionary measures to ensure that cattle infested with diseases were prevented from spreading the diseases to healthy ones.

On food preservation, the commissioner urged research institutions and centres in the country to take the lead in finding new methods of improving on the present ways of preservation and storage of farm crops.

CSO: 3400/501

NIGERIA

BRIEFS

DROUGHT DESTROYS FOOD CROPS--More than N1.5 billion worth of food crops were destroyed by drought in Kano State between 1983 and 1984, the state Commissioner for Agriculture, Alhaji Muhammadu Kazaure, said in Kano on Friday. The commissioner told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that 2.3 million tonnes of sorghum, millet, cowpeas and groundnuts were destroyed and the production of some crops was reduced by about 60 per cent within the same period. He said that about 20,000 head of cattle estimated at N10 million died within the period due to lack of grazing areas and water, but measures had been taken to combat the drought. These, he said, included afforestation to check desert encroachment, the introduction of drought resistant and early maturing crops and the construction of dams and boreholes. Alhaji Muhammadu also said that the federal government had contributed N28.2 million to the state-owned agricultural and rural development authority, since 1982 and that the state government had spent N8.3 million to fight the ravages of drought. He said that 13 dams with a total capacity of 522 million cubic metres had been constructed to irrigate 7,000 hectares during the dry season and that the authority had drilled 1,200 boreholes in rural areas, rehabilitated 4,000 wells and built 1,400 kilometres of feeder roads. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 28 Jan 85 p 3]

TRADITIONALISTS IGNORE LAND USE DECREE--The "traditional people" in the country believe that land still belonged to them in spite of the land use decree, the Rivers State Commissioner for Agriculture and Natural Resources, Dr. Edward Spiff, has said in Port Harcourt. He told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) that the state government was making efforts to acquire land for the current school-to-land programme. The commissioner said that the government had solicited the co-operation of traditional rulers and all concerned even though it could acquire land compulsorily for any purpose. Dr. Spiff said that it was in the same spirit that the governor addressed chiefs in the state last year on the issue of providing land for farming. He said that the government would also use the abandoned farms, the new town sites proposed by the Okilo administration and the previously acquired government lands for the programme. The commissioner said that the programme would exclude livestock production until the Pabod Food Company was revived. Dr. Spiff said that the basic materials for livestock farming would be supplied by the company when fully reactivated with the N4 million agricultural loan from the African Continental Bank (ACB). He said that school leavers, who would eventually be absorbed in the current school-to-land programme this year, would start with crop farming

pending the take-off of the livestock development scheme. Dr. Spiff said that each school leaver would begin his farming career on an initial one-hectare which would eventually be increased to a maximum of five hectares, adding that a monthly allowance of between N60 and N100 would be paid to each farmer until he began to harvest his crops. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 22 Jan 85 p 13]

IMPROVEMENT IN NAVAL TRAINING--PLANS are afoot to improve the facilities for physical training in the Nigerian Navy. Navy top brass, Captain Godwin Ndubisi Kanu, revealed this plan on Friday while reviewing the passing-out parade of the 12 batch of trainees at the Basic Seamanship Training School in Port-Harcourt, Rivers State. [Excerpt] [Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 15 Jan 85 p 1]

TIGA DAM DRYING UP--THE general manager of the Kano/Hadejia River Basin and Rural Development Authority, Alhaji Ahmadu Rufai, has said in Kano that the authority stopped cultivation "during this dry season because the Tiga dam which supplies it water was drying up." In a statement issued on Friday, Alhaji Ahmadu said that the authority had alerted the Federal Government about the "alarming situation. He said that the dam, which had a storage capacity of 1,980 million cubic metres of water, had only 786 million cubic metres at the end of last rainy season. [Text] [Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 15 Jan 85 p 1]

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES' TREATMENT SCORED--SINCE the launching of the third phase of the War Against Indiscipline (WAI) efforts have been made by government officials to inculcate the spirit of patriotism and nationalism into the minds of Nigerians by making them understand as well as sing the national anthem and recite the pledge. Some state governors have gone a step further suspending workers who could not sing the anthem until such a time they are able to do so. And only recently, the Imo State Commissioner for Education, Professor Afigbo ordered the expulsion of a pupil of the Jehovah's Witnesses faith for failing to sing the national anthem and recite the pledge. The pupil had failed to sing because it was against his faith but according to the commissioner, the government was "not ready to compromise patriotism and nationalism with religious fanaticism." It is against this background that this writer would like to comment. Firstly, members of the Jehovah's Witnesses sect all over the world have stated a number of times their stand on the issue of national anthem. Even in some advanced countries where the flag is adored like US, and UK, members of this sect have peacefully convinced their governments on why they do not sing the anthem. Secondly, patriotism and nationalism should be more than mere ability to recite the national anthem and the pledge. Majority of those persons who plunged the country into the present economic disaster and now facing tribunal on recovery of public property would readily sing the anthem if called upon to do so, yet they were callous enough to milk dry the nation's economy. [Tony Ishiekwele] [Text] [Lagos DAILY TIMES in English 15 Jan 85 p 14]

SHOOT ON SIGHT ORDER--SOKOTO State Governor, Brig. Garba Duba, has clarified an earlier statement credited to him that he ordered the shooting at sight of smugglers at the Illela border post with Niger Republic. A Government House statement issued in Sokoto on Tuesday said what the governor meant was that the security agents should shoot in self-defence whenever their lives were in danger. The statement said the governor's directive followed reports that some smugglers had attempted to over-run security agents with vehicles when attempts were made to stop them. [Text] [Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 3 Jan 85 p 16]

CSO: 3400/490

SENEGAL

BRIEFS

ROMANIAN MINING PROJECT--Romania is to provide 150m dollars along with technical assistance for Senegal's billion dollar iron ore mining project, according to an official statement. Under an agreement signed last month between the two countries, Romanian companies will help build a railway and a port to export ore produced by the Eastern Senegal Iron Ore Mining Company (Miferso). Repayment of the 150m-dollar loan will be assured through the extraction of 1.5m t of concentrated iron ore from the mines yearly, which are scheduled eventually to produce 12 m t per year. The construction cost of the port and railway is estimated at 770m dollars. Senegal's as-yet-unexploited iron ore reserves are estimated at 337 m t. [Text] [London TALKING DRUMS in English 11 Feb 85 p 25]

CSO: 3400/636

SOUTH AFRICA

HUGE FOREIGN EXCHANGE LOSS HITS KOHLER

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 8 Feb 85 p 11

[Article by Peter Farley]

[Text]

A crippling R16 million foreign exchange loss wiped out all the good work done at Kohler over the past couple of years and pushed earnings marginally lower in the 12 months to end-December.

A statement accompanying the year-end results says that certain foreign exchange positions were left uncovered — contrary to group policy and without the board's knowledge — and that the two people responsible have accordingly left the company.

The forex losses aside, the Gencor-controlled packaging group did pretty well in the past 12 months. Attributable profit was actually more than 23 percent up at R10,8 million, despite a massive leap in interest charges to R15 million from R9 million in 1983.

Nevertheless, it now seems shareholders are going to have to wait a couple of years before earnings growth resumes.

Considerable help was also received last year from the Inland Revenue authorities, with losses from prior years brought

to account, slashing the effective tax rate to below five percent from 1983's 33 percent.

However, the second half of the year was pretty flat, in profit terms, with almost all of the income improvement coming in the first six months.

Slightly more than R2 million has been taken off the bottom line to go towards the forex losses, and deductions of this nature will now be in force while Kohler amortises the losses over the next four years.

HISTORIC YIELD

The dividend was, however, held unchanged at 53c on only a negligible drop in cover to 1,87 times from 1,92. Had there not been the forex losses the payment could conceivably have been lifted another eight cents to 61c.

In view of the deteriorating trading position and the pretty bleak prospects, it is unlikely that this strategy would have been adopted.

At yesterday's 925c the share offers an historic 6,7 percent dividend yield. Given that profits must this year increase by R2 million, or 23 percent, before any bottom line improvement is

generated, it is likely to be a forward yield as well.

Group turnover was up to R361,1 million from R290,6 million, with R23 million of the increase due to the acquisition of DRG and Xactics during 1983.

The balance was due to increased market share in its traditional areas of operation, says the company.

The leap in the interest bill was also mainly due to the past acquisitions, with long-term debt up to R66,2 million from R45,7 million. Gearing is therefore now in excess of 100 percent.

The packaging industry is still not going to be able to pass on the bulk of its cost increases this year so it seems inevitable that, despite a strong turnaround from the depths of two years ago, the group faces an earnings decline this year.

The share price had held reasonably steady around the 1 000c mark for six months or so now, but dipped sharply a couple of weeks back. The ongoing repayment of forex losses, depressed market conditions, and the high gearing suggest that there is now further downside potential.

CSO: 3400/636

13 March 1985

SOUTH AFRICA

THREE-PARTY STATE EXPLAINED

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 20 Jan 85 p 12

[Text]

SOUTH Africa is no longer effectively a one-party state ruled by the National Party.

This week it became a three-party state ruled equally by the white NP, the coloured Labour Party and the Indian National Peoples' Party — with the NP more equal than the rest.

The opposition parties in the white, coloured and Indian chambers count for nothing in the new system — unless they can muster enough MPs to become the majority in their respective ethnic chambers of Parliament.

The constitution does not give scope for them to form alliances across the colour bar.

Opposition parties in one chamber cannot even vote together with the majority party of another chamber.

For power to decide on the laws of the country rests entirely with the three parties which happen to enjoy the majority of the three chambers. They are separate but equal, with some more equal than others — and the whites more equal than the rest put together.

The opposition parties can do nothing more than make noises, mostly behind the closed doors of the standing committees, and hope that their time will come.

Consensus now means in effect agreement between the NP, the LP and the NPP.

Incredibly enough, even if every other party in Parliament disagrees with them, it will be good enough for the Government. Consensus will be deemed to have occurred.

This is how the system works.

Draft Bills are framed by government departments and presented to Parliament for approval.

If the Bill is deemed an "own affair" pertaining only to the white, coloured or Indian race groups, then it is quite simple. It is considered by the relevant Ministers' Council and chamber of Parliament and either passed or rejected.

But if it is deemed a "general affair" pertaining to all three race groups, then things become complicated. The State President is final arbiter on whether a matter is an own or general affair.

Before a word can be uttered in anger, the Bill is referred to a joint standing committee of all three chambers which meets behind closed doors and away from the poison pens of the Press — in theory anyway.

Represented on this committee are members of all parties. They sit round a single round table and debate as if they are a member of a single committee.

But don't be fooled. It might look like one committee but it is in fact three — a veritable trinity.

For when the talking stops and the voting starts, the chairman does not take a simple count of hands. The whites have their vote, the coloureds their's and the Indians their's. All separate and racially pure.

If the three majority parties in each committee agree, that's consensus. If one or more majority party disagree, that's trouble. The Bill dies a natural death in the committee, maybe to be resurrected some time later.

Or else the State President can refer it to his President's Council for a decision.

But that would definitely not be regarded as consensus politics by MPs who happen to differ in their views

from the State President who, as things now stand, will inevitably be a Nat.

For the President's Council has a majority of Nationalists and its judgment would be a foregone conclusion.

So use of the President's Council at this stage would be distinctly confrontationalist and not part of the consensus model.

The NP is in fact outnumbered in each standing committee by all the other white, coloured and Indian MPs combined.

But that doesn't upset them. For as long as the Nats enjoy the majority on the white side of the committee, they can veto any move.

The same applies to the Labour Party and National Peoples' Party.

They can effectively veto any Bill knowing the State President will be reluctant to use his powers to bypass them for fear of destroying consensus.

If the three majority parties agree, the Bill goes to each chamber for a second reading. Here the opposition can have their say in public. But the decision will have been effectively taken in committee.

That is, unless the majority party, now bathed in the open glare of publicity, changes its mind — something not impossible in some of the more unstable parties.

This is, however, fairly unlikely as committee members will tend to be guided by their party caucuses.

This could make nonsense of consensus as each party will be guided by its caucus irrespective of what is said in the much-vaunted standing committees.

By the time MPs enter their standing committees to debate controversial matters, their minds will already have been made up by their caucuses. Any meaningful shifts would require further approval by their caucus.

And in the absence of caucus approval, a party in open Parliament could repudiate the decision of its committee members, much to the embarrassment of the whole Government.

Standing on the sidelines in the Indian chamber will be Dr J N Reddy's Solidarity, the party that could take over from Mr Amichand Rajbansi's majority NPP if this type of situation developed.

In the coloured chamber, the Labour Party rules supreme but any major rumblings could split the party and topple the Rev Allan Hendrickse.

In theory, the white opposition parties have one great advantage. If they win the white majority they stand to become the most powerful party in government.

For the majority white party effectively elects the State President who appoints the Cabinet. Together they appoint the majority of the President's Council, the final arbiter in matters of dispute.

And as the recession becomes a depression, traditional Nationalist voters are already flocking to the rightwing Conservative Party.

The possible scenarios in white politics are endless, ranging from a CP win in the next General Election to the Progressive Federal Party holding the balance-of-power.

For in the long run, the single most important factor in the complex new constitution is the white voter.

SOUTH AFRICA

TWO OPPOSITION LEADERS OUTLINE THEIR EXPECTATIONS FOR NEW PARLIAMENT

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 20 Jan 85 p 19

[Text] J N Reddy Says: "Get Rid of Our Blindfolds, So That We Know Where We're Going"

A CONSTITUTION must reflect features of a country's history, present and future aspirations, and the composition of its society.

The 1983 Constitution only partially meets the above requirements. What is significant, however, is the fact that it is a departure from the Eurocentric Westminster system, controlled entirely by the white electorate.

The inclusion of the coloured and Indian communities in the higher echelons of government is but only a first step in shaping the destiny of society. It would be naive to assume that we have had the final word in constitution-making.

The flaws of the present constitution have been amply discussed, but let me briefly reiterate some of the weakness: it excludes the majority of South Africans — the black people; it is racially structured and entrenches racial classification; and it entrenches white domination.

Participation in the constitutional process must, however, be seen as a catalyst in creating the policies and conditions which will overcome inertia.

While the new Constitution ends a long period of animosity and distrust between the Afrikaans and English-speaking groups, the success of the reform programme lies in co-operation among the diverse groups in South Africa.

Consensus and "partnership" between the white and black groups hold the hope for a stable society. Ideological extremism, both on the far left and far right, must be scaled down.

The long-term importance of consensus politics

is that it creates conditions favourable for a new and conciliatory approach to the political aspirations of all groups.

The 1983 Constitution heralds the end of the politics of ideology. Apartheid is an anachronistic remnant of a bygone era. Institutionalised discrimination must be ended.

The reform process could be seriously undermined unless we establish a just society, in which all human elements which make up the South African community can be accommo-

dated.

Inhuman laws, laws that are an affront to the dignity of man, laws that impede economic progress and social stability, must be repealed.

Therefore laws such as the Race Classification Act, the Group Areas Act, Reservation of Separate Amenities Act, Immorality and Mixed Marriages Act, and other Acts limiting the freedom of movement and freehold tenure, must be repealed, not so much to appease the outside world or to counter the disinvestment campaign, but to instil confidence in the people of South Africa.

The first bold step having been taken, the momentum for change dare not slow down, as this would create frustration and polarisation to the detriment of political and economic stability in South Africa.

If the confidence of the people is not obtained, it is likely that the frustrated in our country will opt for other systems whose simplistic slogans appear to provide redress and better accommodate their needs.

The next step must be taken on our own initiative. Political destiny is not a matter of chance, it is a matter of choice.

On the basis of consensus there is the challenge and opportunity to build a new broad South Africanism, comprising the different language and colour groups.

I therefore repeat the call I made last year for a declaration of intent spelling out the Government's constitutional direction for the future of our country.

A declaration of intent by the Government now becomes a commanding imperative if confidence in government is to be restored.

The blacks must share in the responsibility of nation-building and share common

allegiance and loyalty.

If the goals of the reform process are known, the masses could identify with each stage of the process in a constructive and positive manner.

We cannot move "blindfold" from one stage to another in the hope that legitimate political aspirations are fulfilled.

The tensions and frustration evident in our society today do not augur well for either political or economic advancement.

Only when an individual is given a personal stake in deciding the policies of government, and hopes to benefit from their success, can society remain politically free, prosperous, progressive and stable.

Government as an accountable servant of the people must guarantee human rights, due process of law and equal opportunity.

We must develop a relationship of mutual responsibility and concentrate on reaching attainable goals. This is the challenge of the contemporary period.

Whether it is politics or economics, what must be accepted is that South Africa is a mixture of characteristics of the First World and the Third World.

The majority of our population falls in the latter category, and the most pressing problem facing South Africa today is to find solutions within this parameter.

Nowhere, more clearly, are the vast disparities between black and other groups evident than in the economic field.

Our economy is a mixture of the formal and informal sectors, and the latter particularly has to be encouraged.

Informal activities in housing, transport, education, business and industry must be promoted, as this reduces the burden on the state in providing housing and jobs and encourages private initiative.

Businessmen must be competitive rather than protected in a monopolistic situation.

The free market system must be operated freely, and the plethora of regulations, Bills, control measures, all of which have to be policed by inspectors and tend to be costly and inflationary, must be re-examined.

We must alter our approach to economic policy by being willing to forgo short-term expediency, and face up to the difficult choices necessary for long-term growth, development and stability.

Austerity measures must be introduced in the private, and particularly the public, sectors.

The weakening of the rand, the depressed gold price, the high rate of unemployment, the drought, a lax monetary system, the high rate of inflation, will impose severe strains on the economy this year.

Any political reform process can be aborted if orderly economic growth is not fostered simultaneously.

Political reform will be more difficult under the present depressed economic climate.

An immediate problem is to combat successfully the rising disinvestment pressure against South Africa.

If overseas capital and technology are denied, it will be catastrophic for employment opportunities for the vast majority of our people.

There must be co-ordinated efforts to develop manpower and maximise productivity to enter into the technological era.

Greater opportunities for training must be provided by technical high schools and technical colleges, which could unlock a tremendous human resource of the magnitude of Japan, Taiwan and South Korea.

Our agriculture must also be placed on a sound basis.

As a consequence of urban encroachment and the Group Areas Act, the Indian farming community is reduced to 1,8 percent, compared with nearly 13 percent in 1950.

Small farmers of all race groups are eliminated through regulations applied by Control Boards.

Rural development programmes must be encouraged to exploit the expertise, skills and initiative, particularly of the Indian farmers.

It would also contribute to reducing the rate of urbanisation, and the unemployment and the housing crisis in the cities.

Land Bank loans for small farmers could entice the people back to the land.

This session of Parliament must also address itself to the serious problem of the housing backlog in the Indian community, especially for those in the lower socio-economic group.

Much research and experimentation have al-

ready taken place, and there is sufficient information to implement low-cost housing schemes and self-help housing programmes. More land for housing must also be identified.

Solidarity recognises the role of the business-

man in the constitutional, social and economic reform, and welcomes the initiative taken by South Africa's leading businessmen in Johannesburg last week.

It is imperative now that the powerful business sector throws in its full weight towards the realisation of these goals.

Solidarity will take full advantage of the opportunities afforded in Parliament to urge the Government to articulate clearly its plans for the constitutional development of the black people in order to ensure that all

South Africans are represented in the highest decision-making body in the land.

This is going to be the most challenging issue in 1985.

To that end, Solidarity will co-operate fully with all groups in Parliament who are committed to these ideals in order to accelerate the pace of peaceful reform in South Africa as a means to creating a normal society.

Archimedes, a Greek mathematician, observed the vast power of the fulcrum. He said: "Give me a standing place and I will move the world."

In a sense, the Constitution provides a "standing place" and a fulcrum to be used to strengthen our cause for a free South Africa.

There must be frustrations in any reform process, but it also offers new opportunities.

Now is the time for South Africans to rise to these challenges. In the diversity among groups, unity must be forged on shared convictions.

Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert: "The Test is to Oppose"

WE start the 1985 Session of Parliament with an untested and entirely new constitution. Inevitably a great deal of time is going to be taken up by all the parties involved in getting to know the ropes.

The time for posturing and bluster is over. Now we are going to find out what is possible and whether the promised goods can be delivered.

It is also important to remember that this new constitution was marketed and promoted as a "reform" constitution, as a mechanism of constitutional change that could meet the aspirations and needs of the people more effectively than the old one.

It is, in other words, a

constitution that has generated expectations of reform. What does "reform" actually mean in the South African context?

I think one can distinguish between two kinds of reform: symbolic and material.

Symbolic reform is the kind that changes the status of the individual — it is essentially legal reform.

Dilemma

Thus, if racist and discriminatory laws are scrapped from the statute books, the majority of people who are affected by such laws will experience a change in status.

For example, consider what a change in influx control laws, the Group Areas Act, the Political In-

terference Act could mean for people in this country.

Material reform, on the other hand, refers to the expenditure of money; expenditure that will either close or narrow the gap in state expenditure for housing, education, transport and health between the different population groups in South Africa.

For symbolic reform to take place in this new constitution the Government will have to display a political will to face up to the "right wing threat" as it perceives it.

That is all that is holding back the scrapping of racist laws.

This "right wing threat" is both inside and outside the National Party and the 1985 session will clearly be an opportunity for the NP to display such political will.

For material reform to take place not only political will is necessary but also the economic means to do so.

At present we are going through a very difficult time economically and no matter how good the intentions of Government, it is better not to spend money you do not have than to feed inflation by doing so.

Thus the new constitution, which has been presented as a reform constitution by the Government, confronts us with a dilemma:

Too much symbolic reform brings the Government into difficulty with the rightwing; too much material reform brings it, and us all, into difficulty with the economy.

Credibility

But the dilemma of the Government simply defines the predicaments of the new parties which have come into the new Parliament.

On them rests the responsibility to "show" their constituents and others who

have criticised them for doing so, that their participation is "working", that it is bringing about the reform they promised.

Thus too little reform of either the symbolic or material kind brings them into difficulty with their own constituencies and this in turn must undermine the credibility of the new constitution.

Urgency

But there is another, perhaps more important dilemma which this new constitution will have to face in 1985.

Despite all the difficulties I have mentioned, the one thing this new constitution must avoid is to create the impression that whenever reform takes place, it is not limited to those groups who participate in the new Parliament.

Nothing will increase the growing antagonism between black and non-black more than the idea that the new constitution is only there to bring about symbolic and material reform for coloured and Asians, and not for blacks.

Perhaps this is going to be the severest test of this new constitution in 1985.

The unrest and violence in the black townships during 1984 has served to highlight the urgency for reform in these communities, as well as the lack of adequate constitutional bodies to negotiate for them.

Against this background the role of the PFP in the new Parliament in 1985 will be:

- To continue with as many of the traditional functions of an official Opposition as possible, to highlight Government shortcomings, question its expenditure and policies and spell out clear alternatives.

- To explore the possibilities of this new constitution to promote negotiation politics.

- To forge associations and seek common strategies with whomsoever wishes to combat racism and get rid of racially discriminatory laws.

- To highlight how Government policy is undermining this country's economic potential and increasing hardships and deprivation for us all.

- To point out continually the fact that the new constitution does not adequately provide for the need for white and black to negotiate a constitution acceptable to both.

One thing the PFP is not prepared to do, and that is to be seduced by Government into a kind of false "consensus politics" where consensus means compliance and opposition is allowed only by permission of the President.

In this sense we, as the official Opposition in the House of Assembly, have a clearer role in opposition than the dominant parties in the House of Delegates and House of Representatives.

On them rests the new task of demonstrating how consensus, reform and opposition are possible as part of the structure of Government.

Challenge

It is a great challenge and I wish them well.

But it is equally important to realise that we in the PFP as the "official Opposition" in the House of Assembly have a different role to play in different circumstances and we fully intend to play that role.

Whereas in 1985 the test for some is going to be to show whether consensus and credibility is possible, for others it will be to show that opposition is still possible and constructive.

For all in Parliament 1985 is going to be a testing time.

SOUTH AFRICA

INDIAN MINISTER ACCUSED OF MISUSE OF POWER

Durban POST NATAL in English 30 Jan-2 Feb 85 p 3

[Text]

A SERIES of allegations charging widespread misuse of power and maladministration were made against the ruling National Peoples' Party in the House of Delegates this week.

And Indian Minister of the Budget Mr Boeti Abramjee was accused of trying to undermine an investigation by Customs and Excise officials against one of his party's MPs.

In the no confidence debate Solidarity leader J N Reddy accused the NPP and Mr Amichand Rajbansi of having threatened the MP for Central Rand, Mr S Collakoppen and MP for Tongaat, Mr Cherry Mohangi.

Mr Reddy attacked the Group Areas Act and was

especially critical of the Council of Ministers' handling of the Cato Manor issue.

He accused the Council of Ministers of paying only lip service to important matters like job creation.

He also criticised the Ministers Council for not objecting to Bills seeking to create separate local authorities.

Mr Nizzie Khan (Isipingo) said Customs and Excise officials were investigating possible charges of fraud amounting to R750 000 against the National Peoples Party MP for North Coast, Naran-tuk Jumuna.

Calling on Mr Abramjee to resign, he accused him of undermining the investigation against Mr Jumuna.

CSO: 3400/545

SOUTH AFRICA

TEMBE CHIEF GIVEN R10,000 GIFT BY SWAZIS

Durban THE DAILY NEWS in English 24 Jan 85 p 3

[Text]

THE explosive Ingwavuma land deal issue surfaced again yesterday with the disclosure of a R10 000 gift from Swaziland to the Chief of the Tembe tribe in north-east KwaZulu, Chief Mzimba Tembe.

This follows an apology recently by Chief Tembe to Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Chief Minister of KwaZulu, for trying to lead his people into a separate and independent homeland. Chief Tembe admitted he had been wooed by Swaziland and its officials.

Yesterday's disclosure was made at a Press conference at Ulundi attended by Chief Buthelezi and several other KwaZulu Cabinet ministers. Relating the events which led

to the disclosure, the magistrate of Ingwavuma, Mr I.S. Mdlalose, said Chief Tembe asked to see him at his (Chief Tembe's) home.

Chief Tembe then told him about the R10 000 cash given to him by Mr Julius Mbuyisa and said he was reluctant to keep it as he feared it would get him into trouble.

Mr Mdlalose said Chief Tembe had told him that initially he had wanted to send the money back — but was worried that it might not reach Swaziland. So he decided to keep it.

Mr Tayson Mbuyiselo Dlamini said Mr Mdlalose had told him about the money and then asked

him to contact the Chief Minister. When he failed to contact the Chief Minister, Mr Dlamini then contacted the King of the Zulus, King Goodwill Zwelithini and asked him to take the message to the Chief Minister.

"We were still awaiting the Chief Minister's decision but for the reason that Chief Tembe did not want to keep the money, we decided to take the money to Ulundi ourselves," he said.

Questioned about his role in the deal, Mr Julius Mbuyisa, the Ingwavuma businessman sobbed while denying any knowledge of a plot — but went on to ask forgiveness in all he had done.

"I came here to have my name cleared. All I have done had been in deference to my chief," said Mr Mbuyisa.

However, Mr Mbuyisa later admitted to have accompanied Chief Tembe to Ermelo, Piet Retief and Pretoria — the various stages during which the land deal plot was hatched, culminating in the petition asking South Africa to declare Ingwavuma a Thonga homeland.

At the Press conference, Chief Buthelezi asked the acting head of the KwaZulu Police, Colonel S.M. Mathe, to open the parcel containing the money, which was in bundles of R10 and R20 notes.

Chief Buthelezi said he would later meet his Cabinet and decide what to do with the money.

SOUTH AFRICA

'VUISWYS' CONVENTIONAL WARFARE TRAINING EXERCISE DESCRIBED

Pretoria PARATUS in English Vol 36 No 2, Feb 85 pp 4-5

[Text]

61 Mechanised Battle Group, under the command of Cmdt E. Van Lill, has recently carried out the biggest conventional warfare training exercise yet held in the Operational Area.

This simulated battle known as 'Vuiswys' was fought over a two day period in an area less than a hundred kilometres south of Ruacana and just west of Ongandjera. Here, 61 Mechanised Battalion was deployed in a simulated attack on three "enemy" objectives.

The battle was designed in a six-phase plan consisting of preparation, movement into the battle area and attacks on the three objectives and then finally reorganisation to be ready for any counter offensives.

The aim of 61 Mech Bn is to be a crack conventional reaction force of the South West Africa Territory Force. This exercise served as a final part of the training for National Servicemen who had completed their initial phases in the Republic. Thus the exercise offered them experience in operational training. It also exercised the movement of troops and vehicles as well as command and control procedures.

STARTING on the morning of Thursday, 17 January 1985, a mechanised infantry company including Ratel Infantry Combat Vehicles mounted with 90mm guns, moved forward to the first objective. The attack began with an air strike by Impala jets which unleashed rocket fire on to the enemy target. Following

this the Ratels gave direct fire support and a medium artillery battery consisting of 140mm guns bombed the area relentlessly. Infantrymen, code named Zulu Group, then moved in on foot and finally cleared the first objective.

In order for the Ratels to reach the second objective, an "enemy minefield" had to be breached. This was achieved by assault pioneers. The mechanised infantry company (mounted) moving together with the Ratels which were giving direct fire support, then attacked and obliterated objective two.

Part of the "enemy" forces included a squadron of tanks and it was after the offensive on the second objective that the tank squadron of own forces went into battle against this 'opposition'.

THE last objective consisted of 'enemy' platoons near a hypothetical village. They were positioned as forward and in-depth platoons. This was to be a night attack.

The mechanised infantry, tanks and Ratels formed up into position from the 'village'. They then started moving until they came into contact with the 'enemy'. Direct fire support was given by the Ratels and further battle field elimination was carried out by a 81mm mortar fire group. The infantry then moved in on foot to finish off the forward targets. Hereafter they took the in-depth platoons with the aid of indirect fire support from the medium artillery battery and the mortar fire group.

The enemy targets in the exercise

had been deployed on the basis of actual enemy positionings encountered during past operations. The lessons learned from these operations had also been built into the exercise and were thus tested, practiced and improved upon.

It was the first time that tanks had been used as part of a military exercise in the Operational Area.

COL A.S. Kleynhans, SSO SWA Territory Force Military Information Service, said that one of the main points of the exercise was the practice and experience gained in going through the drills, formations, and movements of troops, vehicles and equipment. "In this respect, the exercise was extremely successful," said Col Kleynhans.

He also mentioned that despite peace negotiations between South Africa and Angola, the SA Defence Force was still fighting a war against Swapo. Thus the exercise tested the preparation of the conventional forces to cope with terrorist incursions.

"Since the beginning of December, we have picked up the normal battle indications that Swapo is in fact busy preparing for their annual infiltration. The infiltration has not started yet, probably because there has not been sufficient rain in the area," said Col Kleynhans.

Exercise 'Vuiswys' certainly showed that the SADF is a force to be reckoned with.

CSO: 3400/654

SOUTH AFRICA

500,000 INDIANS SUFFER UNDER GROUP AREAS ACT

Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English 27 Jan 85 p 3

[Text]

ABOUT 500 000 Indians in South Africa had directly or indirectly suffered as a result of Group Areas Act displacements, Mr Pat Poovalingam, Solidarity MP for Reservoir Hills, said this week.

Speaking to the no-confidence motion proposed by his party in the National People's Party's Council of Ministers, he said many Indians had been devastated by the removals and anyone saying resettlements under the Act were in the interests of the community could not be telling the truth.

The Group Areas Act had created an artificial shortage of land for Indians and "any stupid fool" would know when there was a shortage, prices would rise, he said.

Mr Somaru Pachai, NPP MP for Natal Midlands, said his party would use the House of Delegates to free the Indian community from the "shackles of apartheid".

CSO: 3400/545

SOUTH AFRICA

GROWTH OF INSURANCE INDUSTRY NOTED

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 3 Feb 85 p 3

[Article: "Assurance; SA's R30-bn Behemoth"]

[Text]

IN THE past 25 years the assets of all South African life assurers have grown from a relatively small R1 000-million to a current R30 000-million.

Over the past few years the investment assets of the country's life assurers have been growing at an annual rate of about 25 percent, compared with 13,7 percent in the UK and less than 10 percent in the United States.

The domestic industry is virtually doubling its asset base every three years.

In the context of the South African economy, the domestic life assurance industry provides about one-fifth of total capital funding requirements.

South Africa's life assurers have always adopted a conservative and highly responsible approach to the investment of their funds.

This is why the industry has developed rapidly from one which traditionally provides security for the man in the street in the event of his death or disablement to one which has emerged as a very substantial and sophisticated medium for the investment of personal savings.

In the late 1960s only 17 percent of personal savings in

South Africa were channelled through the life assurance industry. By the late 1970s this ratio had grown to 42 percent.

In recent years the contractual savings institutions have been absorbing upwards of 133 percent of personal savings — indicating a net dis-saving from discretionary savings institutions.

Since mid-1980 the rate of increase in personal consumption expenditure has been higher than that of personal disposable income, while the rate of increase in personal credit outstanding has been higher than the rate of increase in spending.

South Africa's investment markets have also benefited

from the more sophisticated approach and strategies employed by the leading life assurers.

In the commercial property sector the limited availability of bond finance and the rapid escalation in building costs have discouraged all but the very large investors and the life assurance industry, with its significant cash flows, now plays a dominant role in the development of major office and shopping complexes, which frequently cost well in excess of R50-million.

The risks of developing such projects can only be absorbed by the large financial institutions.

The life assurance industry is also playing an increasingly important role in the equity market. It has been estimated that life assurers and privately administered pension funds account for roughly 25 percent of the capitalisation of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, compared with less than 10 percent in 1970 and less than 5 percent ten years earlier.

In the industrial sector of the market this proportion is probably in the region of 40 percent, with a bias towards the traditional blue chip companies.

The industry is also a significant contributor of funds required for new capital and

rights issues.

It is well known that in terms of insurance legislation a very substantial proportion of a company's premium inflow must be invested in gilt and semi-gilt securities.

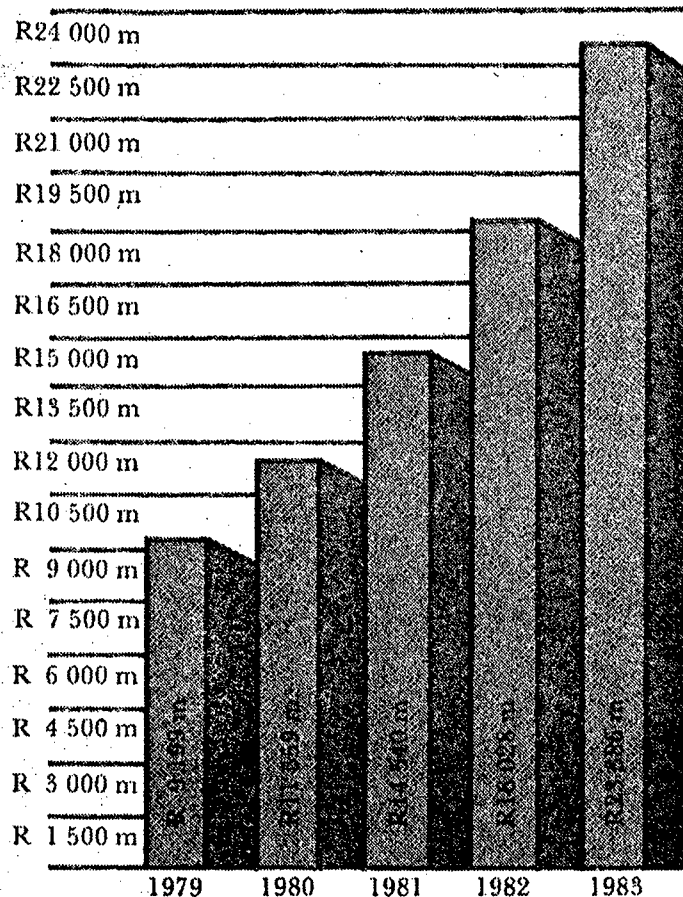
Over the years, the Treasury has come to rely heavily on the substantial inflow of funds from such securities from the life industry.

These days it is extremely difficult for an individual to earn a return on his own savings from his own efforts that is higher than inflation — especially when tax is taken into account — and most people prefer to leave the investing to the professionals.

The life assurers endeavour at all times to maximise investment returns for the policyholders, while at the same time adopting a low-risk profile, and are invariably successful in earning after-tax returns which well exceed prevailing rates of inflation.

I believe the growth of life assurance has come about because our industry has looked to satisfy the needs of the consumer and provide an efficient service and products which offer excellent value for money as well as fulfilling the traditional role of providing life cover, disability cover and pensions benefits.

Total Assets



This table, drawn up by the Life Offices' Association, traces the growth of the life assurance industry.

CSO: 3400/636

SOUTH AFRICA

U.S. DISINVESTMENT ISSUE UNDER SCRUTINY

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Feb 85 p 2

[Text]

DISINVESTMENT is becoming one the biggest issues — if not the biggest — of the year.

Clearly, its importance to South Africa dare not be underestimated, since the withdrawal of many billions by United States corporations and institutions is bound to impact dramatically on an economy wallowing in the depths of a crippling recession.

Share prices will collapse, unemployment will rise to desperation proportions, insolvencies will snowball, living standards will plummet and the country's entire socio-political fabric will be severely battered.

Being as close as we are to this vexed issue, perspective is difficult to come by. Wishful thinking prompts us to believe that disinvestment will not materialise; that with Ronald Reagan rooting for us the nightmare will evaporate the moment we awake.

We cling to such footholds as the recent Business Week/Harris Poll finding that Americans are opposed to applying sanctions of any sort to South Africa.

One-sided

But when the chips are all down, one cannot escape the observation that we tend to assess the situation from our side of the Atlantic. That's a mistake. It's high time we examined the crystal ball from

the American side of the ocean, for it's there that our disinvestment fate will be determined.

Once we manage to bring ourselves around to thinking in such a reverse (and more objective) manner, we stand a far greater chance of seeing into the fogbank of what lies ahead.

And what lies ahead looms as a potentially depressing scenario. Not, ironically, because of political pressures but because of the financial corner into which the United States has painted itself as a result of its dominance (wittingly or otherwise) of the global economic panorama.

Viewed as succinctly as one can (for it is a complex issue), the United States owes the rest of the world a great deal of money. Which is just another way of saying that the American external deficit is extremely large and growing.

Expanded

Just how large may be gauged from the fact that the US negative trade balance has expanded from 30-billion dollars in early 1983 to 130-billion dollars in 1984.

At this rate, should it continue into 1985 (and the strength of dollar suggests that it will), the accumulated adverse trade balance will hit 250-billion dollars this year.

Made meaningful, this figure completely wipes out the

external assets built up by the United States over the past 75 years. And it's happened in the short space of 24 months!

Now let's assume that you live either in one of the world's many impoverished countries or form part of a nation which has borrowed heavily and is struggling to contain its indebtedness.

Without America's largesse you'd be a lot worse off than you are. The United States knows this and rests secure in the knowledge that its mammoth external deficit is giving the Third World the breathing space it needs to put its house in order.

A strong dollar forms part of this strategy, since it renders the American currency acceptable (nay, highly attractive) to those countries requiring economic assistance.

But for every solution there's a problem. In this case, it's the plight of American business. The strong dollar virtually rules out the competitiveness of US exports, while even undertakings which do not form part of the export market are being ground down by competition from cheap imports.

Businessmen the world over, when faced with a setback, resort to restructuring their balance sheets. They sell assets to reduce their borrowings and to construct a survival cushion that will help tide them over the bad times.

Thus, American corporations, faced with progressively tougher business conditions, are going to be gradually liquidating their foreign investments -- no matter where those foreign investments happen to be located.

Sell shares

It might be more convenient to sell their South African shares because by doing so they will raise the capital they require and simultaneously get the disinvestment lobbyists off their backs.

It matters not that the prime motivation for disinvestment isn't political. The bottom line is that a trend is beginning to develop towards disinvestment -- and South Africa will suffer accordingly.

Hopefully, the process will be a slow one, enabling us to adjust to the evolving situation. Above all, however, we dare not fool ourselves into believing that disinvestment will not take place.

CSO: 3400/636

SOUTH AFRICA

REPORT ON SASOL PROFITS EXAMINED

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Feb 85 p 2

[Text]

SASOL is faced with the problem of trying to show that it is not making exorbitant profits at a time when the rest of the country is being squeezed dry.

This is the comment of stock broking firm, Fergusson Bros, Hall, Stewart and Co, which points out that the company is virtually unaffected by the adjustment to the retail prices of oil products because its own income is related to the producer price of oil which, in turn, is a function of:

- The international oil price.

- The rand dollar exchange rate.

- The extent to which the producer price has been subsidised by withdrawals from the now-depleted stabilisation fund.

The firm's report says the

only direct effect of the retail price adjustment relates to the minor portion of the group's output that it markets directly in finished product form.

"But," the firm stresses, "this does not alter the fact that Sasol must be benefiting handsomely from the factors responsible for the 40 percent increase in the petrol price, which is in itself a reflection of the extent to which the producer price of oil in South Africa has risen as a result of the collapse of the rand — even after taking into the account the softness of international oil prices per se.

Changes in the landed cost of a barrel of oil have no direct bearing on Sasol's own production costs of synfuel. Yet what does have a direct

impact on profit margins is Sasol's ability to benefit from these changes through corresponding adjustments to its own selling prices.

"Regrettably, though, with all useful information on the oil industry in South Africa classified for strategic reasons, it is impossible to quantify the potential benefits in terms of Sasol's earnings.

"It is also a fact that this shroud of secrecy makes it relatively easy for Sasol to declare whatever profit it likes.

"Our feeling, therefore, is that Sasol's bonanza is more likely to be reflected in an accelerated repayments programme in respect of its mammoth debt burden still hanging over from the acquisition of Sasol II in 1983, rather than in super earnings.

"In so doing, the acquisition date of Sasol III could be brought forward, perhaps to as early as mid-1986 (the start of the 1987 financial year)".

Fergusson Bros considers it prudent to expect an annual growth rate of 15 to 20 percent in earnings and dividends and hazards a forecast of 84c a share earnings and a 38c dividend total for 1985, compared with 73,3c and 33c in 1984.

These predictions, the firm considers, might be conservative. "But what is certain is that even doing no better than our forecast will be very impressive relative to what can be expected from the industrial sector at large."

SOUTH AFRICA

PROGRESS OF EMERGING UNIONS REPORTED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 4 Feb 85 p 7

[Article by Phillip van Niekerk]

[Text]

EMERGING unions are having their work cut out this year trying to minimise the effects of further retrenchments.

That was clear from developments last week in which two shop unions won concessions over retrenchments with OK Bazaars, and motor unions prepared to negotiate on behalf of the casualties of the Ford-Amcar merger.

OK's agreement with the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Ccawusa) and the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers (Nudaw) broke new ground in several respects.

Firstly, OK agreed during negotiations to accept an independent auditor nominated by the unions to verify the company's statements on the need for retrenchments.

The battle over financial disclosure is a major issue confronting the union movement, and the demand that management prove the necessity of their actions is even more important with the prospect of more retrenchments.

OK's agreement that

workers could choose to be "laid-off" or "retrenched", establishing an important distinction, helped substantially to soften the blow.

The laid-off workers have been guaranteed re-employment on August 7, have received two weeks wages and remain members of their medical aid and pension funds. They are thus taking an effective six months unpaid leave.

But the OK battle is not yet over. Ccawusa now has to negotiate on behalf of 950 workers, the balance of the 2 000 workers the company originally intended to retrench.

□ □ □

TWO more emerging unions signed access agreements with the Chamber of Mines last week to recruit workers on the properties of Chamber mines, further cluttering a rapidly expanding field.

If one takes into account the potential strength of black mineworkers if there is just one united union in the industry, there must be some glee in employer circles at these developments.

At last count there

were 12 unions known to be organising black workers on the mines. This is a brief field guide for the bewildered observer.

● The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), whose general secretary is Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, towers over the rest of the contenders, with some 110 000 members and 29 recognition agreements. It is organised at mines in the Free State, Klerksdorp, Carltonville, Witbank, Phalaborwa and North Western Cape areas and is rapidly expanding, already being the largest trade union in the country.

Affiliated to the Council of Unions of SA (Cusa), the NUM is the only mining union party to the talks leading to the formation of a super-federation of emerging unions later this year. The NUM's motto is "One union, one industry."

● The Federated Mining Union (FMU) has agreements with De Beers diamond mines in the Kimberley area, some recognition on gold mines and last week signed an agreement with JCI at Rustenburg Platinum Mines. The FMU is closely allied to the S A Boiler-

maker's Society which has a multi-racial membership, and is the only other union to be formally recognised by the Chamber.

● The black consciousness-oriented Black Allied Mining and Construction Workers' Union (Bamcwu) is known chiefly for its anti-asbestos campaign following the strike at Penge mine. With no major agreements, Bamcwu has some organisation on chrome and other mines in the North Eastern Transvaal and on the gold mines close to Johannesburg.

● Two other unions already have access to Chamber mines but little has been heard of them. They are the Black Allied Mining and Tunnel Workers' Union (Bamtwu), which is allied to the original black consciousness union, the Black Allied Workers' Union (Bawu); and the Black Mineworkers' Union, of which little is known.

● One of the two unions granted access this week is the Johannesburg-based South African Mineworkers' Union (Samwu), an affiliate of the South African Allied Workers' Union (Saawu). General secretary of both is Mr Sisa Njikelana.

● Saawu's ally, the General and Allied Workers'

Union (Gawu), is organising mineworkers in the northern Cape, while a Saawu offshoot, led by the union's former general secretary Mr Sam Kikine, has organised mineworkers in Natal.

● The other union granted access this week is the African Miners' and Allied Workers' Union (Amawu), formed last year by Mr Vuyani Madolo, a former organiser of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM). Amawu is organising on the Randfontein/Westonaria/Carletonville line.

● Fosatu's Chemical Workers' Industrial Union (CWIU), which has been involved in a major dispute with Sasol over mass dismissals, has organised workers at Sasol-owned coalmines.

● The United Mining, Metal and Allied Workers of South Africa (Ummawosa), a break-away from Fosatu's Metal and Allied Workers' Union, is organising mineworkers chiefly in the Eastern Transvaal.

● The Bophuthatswana National Union of Mine Employees (Bonume), is trying to organise all mine workers in that territory. The union was set up following the banning of South African trade unions by the Bophuthatswana authorities and is being "fully encouraged".

SOUTH AFRICA

RADICAL ECONOMIC CHOICES FACE NATION, SAYS STANDARD

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 8 Feb 85 p 3

[Text]

SOUTH AFRICA must make fundamental changes in the whole nature of its economy or else face the threat of a socially unacceptable low-growth rate.

This warning is made in Standard Bank's economic report for February.

It says a shift in the world economy is taking place, "away from countries with the sort of resource-based economic structure possessed by South Africa. In consequence, ownership of massive mineral resources and proficiency in agriculture are no longer a passport to inevitable success".

Standard argues: "What has to be clearly understood is that the foundation stones of this economy —

mineral and agricultural wealth — are gradually becoming less relevant."

This is, "partly because sources of supply are increasing, partly because of the accelerating development of new materials (affecting minerals) and rapid technological advances in agricultural production, and partly because greater control over inflation in the industrialised West has largely removed the hedge element of demand."

So what must South Africa do?

Standard says: "As it happens, a comparatively large number of avenues exist which could lead the country away from a potential economic slide and consequent political difficulties.

"Unfortunately, nearly all of these avenues require a great deal

of flexibility of mind, attitudes and laws.

"The need now is not only for a sound economic policy package consistently carried out, but also for a change in attitudes in the social and political sphere in order to produce the energy and resourcefulness, as well as a rise in internal and external confidence in the economy to make a new direction possible.

"Alternative avenues of growth are not hard to find in South Africa.

"Indeed, it is encouraging that they exist in abundance.

"The real difficulty is that implementation of almost any of these approaches requires a flexibility, which may not be generated easily in the short-to-medium term."

The bank has the following suggestions:

- The first of these might encompass a move into the realms of micro-electronics, bio-technology and robotics, the application of high technology to existing industries, as well as the further development of tourism and the internationalisation of financial and information services centres;

- The second could imply increased participation rates for the population in general and for women in particular, as well as a move into the rest of Africa;

- The third could mean increasing productivity wherever possible, shifting workers from low-productivity to high-productivity sectors and removing bureaucratic or legal hindrances to the smooth functioning of the economy.

SOUTH AFRICA

RECORD 350 COMPANIES FACING BANKRUPTCY

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 Feb 85 p 11

[Article by Alec Hogg]

[Text] More than 350 medium-sized companies will probably go to the wall this month, overtaking the record of 289 set in February last year.

Next month's figure could be higher.

Liquidators, who had a breathing space in December and January as many companies held on in the hope that Christmas would come to the rescue, are working at a break-neck pace.

Of particular concern is the number of established companies which have cracked under high interest rates and depressed demand.

Bids Drop

Agricultural product supplier Gollach & Comperts, established in the 1930s, and the equally old construction company, Miodownik, which built the large Ponte flat complex in Johannesburg, survived the 1976 recession, but they have been crippled by the present slump.

Brian Winterstein, of auctioneers Aucor, says: "We will have twice as many liquidation auctions this month than in February 1984. They range from boutiques and shoe shops to fairly large industrial concerns."

Another problem for creditors is that assets are fetching low prices, Mr Winterstein says: "Reserve prices have been chopped or dropped. Something which fetched, say, R10 000 a year ago is going for at best R7 000 today."

Impossible

One of the larger companies to run into difficulty is Krugersdorp-based trailer and body builder Pieterse Engineering, which once had an annual turnover of \$8-million.

Pieterse Engineering held a R4-million stock liquidation sale this week. It was the biggest of its kind in SA for some time.

Chief executive Gary Pieterse says: "The slump forced us into judicial management. The biggest factor which affected us was high interest rates. Someone who buys a truck and trailer must meet interest charges of about 30%. It is impossible in this economic climate to pass on such a cost."

Mr Pieterse believes his decision to go for judicial management will help to save his company. He recommends this route to similarly smitten concerns.

"Since we have been under judicial management I have been able to concentrate on the small things about which one normally forgets when times are good.

"For example, we had 17 company cars on our books last year. Today we have five. In spite of reducing our staff from 150 to 100, our output is the same as before."

Taps Off

Big Daddy's Chieckens, a Kentucky competitors, has failed. Its three fast-food outlets in Bryanston, Orange Grove, Johannesburg, and Vanderbijlpark, will be auctioned in a week's time.

The managing director of another private company who did not wish to be named as "negotiations with creditors are still in a delicate stage" said that for many businesses the interest burden was worse than acknowledged.

"Banks have turned off the taps, so you can forget about small businesses paying anything like the prime overdraft rate of 25%. We are forced to go into the grey market where money costs upwards of 30%, or even to confirmers where the charge is an effective 36% or 37%.

Small businesses have borne the brunt of recession. One of the hardest hit has been the building industry with 13 members of the Master Builders Association in the Transvaal failing in the past few months.

But there are fears that some big firms will fail, among them companies whose shares are quoted on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

Severe

The managing director of the Standard Bank group, Conrad Strauss, says: "I expect this decline (in economic activity) to be large enough to cause severe difficulties not merely for individuals and small firms but for some listed companies."

CSO: 3400/636

SOUTH AFRICA

TRADE DEBT INCREASE REPORTED

Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 3 Feb 85 p 1

[Article by David Cumming]

[Text]

SOUTH AFRICAN trade debt is mushrooming.

As the recession deepened in the third quarter of last year, Johannesburg manufacturers and wholesalers were forced to wait 73 days for payment, compared to 70 days the previous quarter and 67 days last year.

A survey of 18 countries by credit consultants Dun and Bradstreet showed that only France, the UK and Peru harboured worse payers.

Dun and Bradstreet's national manager of the commercial collections division, Malcolm Boyd, says the survey showed manufacturers were best off in Hong Kong, where they waited only 29 days for their money.

Wholesalers who fared best were those in Argentina, where the period was 36 days.

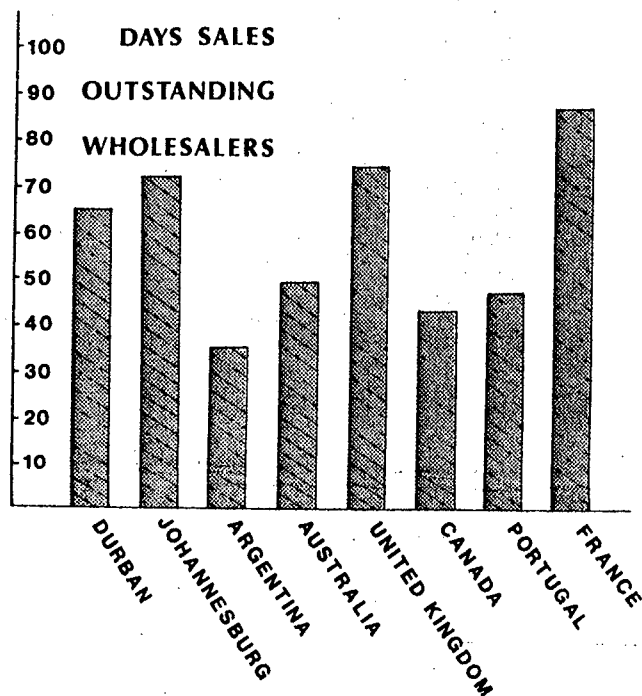
Wholesalers based in Durban had similar problems to those experienced on the Reef. There they had to wait 65 days for their money, compared to 62 days in the previous quarter.

Manufacturers were better off. Their wait was 51 days, compared with 54 in the second quarter.

However, they were still worse off than they had been the previous year when the third-quarter figure was 47 days.

Six of the other countries surveyed experienced worse paying habits in the quarter concerned. The biggest increase was in Germany, where manufacturers had to wait 10 days longer than in the previous quarter.

Most-improved payers were the Irish, where manufacturers waited 56 days for their money compared with 67 days in the previous quarter.



SOUTH AFRICA

CORPORATE TAKE-OVER LEGISLATION NEARS

Johannesburg SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 10 Feb 85 p 1

[Article by Lawrence Bedford]

[Text]

LONG-awaited legislation on a corporate take-over panel for South Africa looks like materialising next year, Mr Justice Cecil Margo, chairman of the Standing Advisory Committee on Company Law, said at the weekend.

The present protection of shareholders in take-overs and mergers is considered inadequate. A take-over panel would be equipped to investigate the merits of any major deals and would decide whether there had been fair disclosure enabling shareholders and relevant parties to come to a decision.

An important meeting of a special sub-committee of the advisory committee considering proposals for a panel was slated for this Thursday said Mr Justice Margo.

He said, however: "It may be that a take-over panel is not going to be accepted. There is opposition, or rather I should say different views, and we cannot steam roller anything through."

The committee, having had sight of the City of London proposals for a panel, was "enthusiastic" about their applicability in South Africa.

Support

Legal observers say there appears to be some support for the idea of the Registrar of Companies in South Africa having judicial powers similar to those enjoyed by other branches of officialdom which act against deals that are not in the public interest.

There is also support for more financial resources being made available, particularly to the SA Police, for detecting financial crime.

The committee has just published a position paper on the future development of the Companies Act, throwing it open to the public for comment. Since its commencement in 1974, the Act has been amended nine times.

This unfortunately has not brought South Africa anywhere near perfection. Company law in general, and the Companies Act in particular, still suffer from defects that require attention.

Mr Justice Margo said the committee was fully aware of the disadvantages of too frequently changing the system regulating thousands of

incorporated business enterprises.

In consequence it believed that the required reforms had to be carried through in a manner and at a pace that would avoid disruption and show the clearest appreciation for practical considerations.

The committee believed it could best perform its function as adviser to the government on company law development by identifying and publicising defects in company law which were in need of reform.

Expertise

A major objective is to use all available expertise in company law for constructive development. The committee hopes in this way to influence the direction and topics of academic research and publication. Ideas and proposals which are made available to the committee will get careful attention.

In addition to the take-overs panel issue, the committee has identified a number of problem areas. It said the distinction between public and private companies was questionable, with the introduction of the Close Corporations Act clearly strengthening an argument for abolishing the distinction.

A fundamental weakness from a policy point of view is that those using companies can often ignore the obligations and requirements of the Companies Act and common law. In effect they retain all their benefits under the system — often at the expense of creditors.

SOUTH AFRICA

SATS HARBORS REVAMP REPORTED

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 11 Feb 85 p 1

[Article by Priscilla Whyte]

[Text]

HARBOUR developments totalling R150m for export cargo handling are being undertaken by SA Transport Services.

Mr Jan Mors, assistant director of harbour operating of SA Harbours, says Richards Bay is handling the "upsurge in exports in coal and other minerals and expansion to existing facilities will relieve the congestion".

The maize industry has been talking about a proposed facility for exports through Richards Bay.

Revenue for harbours in 1983/84 was R733m and about 10,7% of total Sats' income for the period.

"Indications are that for 1984/1985 harbour revenue could be almost 13% of total Sats' revenue mainly due to the upsurge in exports".

At Richards Bay construction of three berths will involve R32m.

One berth will probably become part of the bulk handling facility and the others will handle clean cargo such as paper products and ferro-alloys.

Infrastructure development for the berths could cost about R40m.

New storage bins with a capacity of 110 000m³ for bulk cargo handling are going to be installed for a capital outlay of R34m. The completion date is the beginning of 1987.

A R4m pneumatic discharger for handling imported alumina for Alusaf will be commissioned by May.

The railway line to Richards Bay is being upgraded and this should be completed by the end of 1987.

Durban port facilities are being looked at because of the shift from general cargo to containerisation.

There are plans to convert three general cargo quays to a steel facility.

"The project will cost R20m being phased in over the next few years. We hope with the achieving of faster loading rates to increase Durban's capacity," said Mr Mors.

Durban's is expected to handle more than 2-million tons of steel this year. Imports of maize through Durban amounted to 1-million tons last year.

Another major development in Durban is the establishment of a R12m pre-cooling facility for the export of citrus fruit. Durban can still handle more containers.

Port Elizabeth is already handling 45 000 tons of steel a month taking the pressure off Durban.

Cape Town is quiet with the Western Cape economy in the doldrums. Some maize is being imported and exports are mainly fruit.

Saldanha iron ore exports are picking up, according to Mr Mors. Some 11,5-million tons was exported in 1984.

SOUTH AFRICA

ROLE OF 112 SQUADRON DESCRIBED

Pretoria PARATUS in English Vol 36 No 2, Feb 85 pp 30-31

[Article by Lance Corporal G. Ford]

[Text]

AFTER appearing before a selection board at Rooikop, Walvis Bay, 112 (earlier 1 SWA Sqn), was formed in August 1963 from a mere handful of candidates. The Squadron was to be a South West African Commando support unit, taking orders from SWA Command with Cmdt Magnus Malan as OC. (The then Cmdt Malan was to become Chief of the SADF, and is the present Minister of Defence). It was Cmdt H.H.O. Denk (now Honorary Colonel), who was tasked to build up the fledgling squadron whose numbers were drawn up from all over South West Africa, and attain full operational strength within the shortest possible time.

BY mid 1964, after the first officers' course at Voortrekkerhoogte, all the Squadron's functional and technical posts had been filled, and concerted air-ground co-operation exercises with SWA Command troops commenced.

But the true role of 112 Squadron was actually more complex than met the eye and came to embrace: reconnaissance exercises, medical evacuations, supply drops, convoy escorts, search and rescue, message drops and retrievals, aerial photography and occasional telstar operations. The Squadron also had the prestige of ferrying numerous VIP passengers throughout South West Africa.

The Commando pilots conventionally used their own civilian aircraft for their various tasks, offering the advantage of familiarity with their strengths and limitations. Civilian flying abilities were honed to operational standards under Air Force regulations. The strictest instruction carries on to this day.

The fact that the Squadron, since its inception, flew approximately 30 000 hours over South West Africa and the Operational Area without incurring any aircraft loss or physical casualties, is surely testimony to the professional standards exacted by Cmdt Denk, around whom a

very strong and dedicated team became organized.

Squadron members have always been influential in their communities and include agriculturalists, lawyers, engineers, chemists and leading businessmen. Yet although spread all over South West Africa, the Squadron has been able to muster its personnel to any vantage point within the country within a matter of a few hours.

The Squadron has intimate knowledge of the rugged South West Africa terrain, with some members boasting several thousand logged flying hours. Tracks, pans and dry river beds are used for impromptu landing strips to give access to areas once considered highly inaccessible. A typical remark from new members seems to be: "You really get to know the country from corner to corner". 1 SWA Squadron has flown more hours than all the Republic Commando squadrons put together!

To test their mettle in the sixties, the Squadron airlifted 45 fully equipped soldiers from Gobabis to Sossusvlei in the Namib Desert (which entails landing on a dry pan amongst the highest dunes in the world) with a further stopover near Terrace Bay on the Skeleton Coast, before completing the triangle "home". This successful operation proved their cap-

ability to carry troops at short notice to regions which enjoy neither tarred nor gravel runways.

To ensure peak operational efficiency, numerous training courses and weekend camps are held throughout SWA and monitored by qualified Air Force personnel. Activities include: survival flying, navigational exercises, mock casevacs and simulated forced landings. Successful camps have so far been held at Ruacana, the Kunene Mouth, Marienfluss, Rocky Point, Möwe Bay, Terrace Bay, Rooikop, Sossusvlei, Khoimasis, Rundu and Tsumkwe.

The squadron flash in sky blue, mustard yellow and gold.

Squadron standards are high, for example requiring a flight observer to be in possession of a PPL so that he can take over in emergencies. Map reading abilities need to be acute in this desolate part of the world where landmarks are few and far between. And with low level flights sometimes verging on "hedge-hopping", the pilot has to be particularly aware of his surroundings and reflexes.

In 1968, control of the Commando Squadron was transferred to the Air Force resorting under 1 Light Aircraft Col H.H.O. Denk was the original OC tasked to build up the fledgling squadron to operational capacity. PARATUS took an informal photograph at his home.

Command, with Socomdo Cmdt Bob Kershan, DSO, DFC.

Cmdt Piet Gouws took over the post of OC in June 1979, and towards the end of the year, 112 Sqn joined the South West African Territory Force. The Squadron

could now truly be said to be "the eyes of the Army". Orders were, however, taken from Western Air Command, their "foster parents". After OPS Savanna, direct tasking of the Squadron was in the hands of 301 Air Component, on behalf of SWATF.

Cmdt Gouws and his SO Admin, Capt Markus von Jeney, still a backbone member of the Squadron today, realized the necessity of increasing the Commando's strength, and initiated a recruitment policy which helped double the numbers within four years.

Cmdt Gouws's term of office was short-lived, unfortunately, due to a tragic accident and he was replaced in March 1981 by Cmdt Adri Basson, the present OC, who, with total involvement, has taken the squadron to even greater heights. In civilian life, Cmdt Basson is an insurance broker for a well known bank and recently won an overseas trip for the best sales in Southern Africa.

At the annual year end camp, the 21 years of existence were celebrated by means of a medal parade, a fly past of Impalas and a formal function.

At present, the Squadron numbers have swelled from the original close-knit handful of men to over a hundred dedicated members. However, the original team spirit and camaraderie remains and is evident when members get together for an organized shooting event followed by a well earned beer and sing along.

The Commando Squadron is on twenty four hour standby. Whether aroused from its sleep at one o'clock in the morning to monitor the movement of Russian ships off the Skeleton Coast, or to track terrorist insurgents on the borders, the Squadron more than amply fulfils the motto: Celeriter — meaning SWIFTLY, which describes their modus operandi. Rapid reaction with resourcefulness: that is 1 SWA Squadron!

CSO: 3400/654

SOUTH AFRICA

UMGENI COMMANDO DESCRIBED

Pretoria PARATUS in English Vol 36 No 2, Feb 85 pp 16-17

[Text] Since its inception in 1963, Umgeni Commando--situated close to the centre of Durban--has established itself as a vigorous, enthusiastic, well liked and respected unit within and without the borders of the city.

Consisting of volunteer members and National Servicemen, the unit was initially assembled at Lord's Ground, living a corrugated-iron shack existence.

Under the command of Cmdt. R. N. Fennels, it established itself as an effective urban commando unit. Offering services such as 24 hour aid to the SAP, protection of national key points (NKP) and liaison with civil authorities, it has won the respect of many citizens and relative commando's in Durban.

In 1977, Umgeni Commando was relieved of its shack existence and found itself now based at Shepstone Road, Bluff. For the next five years, firstly under the command of Cmdt B. Shantall (1977-1981) and then Cmdt J. J. Cunningham (1981-1982) the unit continued its responsibilities as an effective force rendering aid to its surrounding community.

In 1982, after massive alterations to what was once a boys' school and then the Durban Central Police Headquarters, Umgeni Commando was given a new home within the newly situated Group 10 HQ--the command under which the unit functions, and from whom it receives much encouragement, support and advice.

A new home, together with a new OC, Cmdt G. A. Smith, created a stimulus for fresh ideas and further responsibilities. The unit's expansion in members--consisting of 12-day a year personnel, area and non-area bound personnel of all racial groups, as well as female personnel--has enabled it to provide a more updated and functional service. Their responsibilities now included the security of certain industrial elements.

Cmdt Smith explained: "Not only does this establish a better deployment of manpower, but also a highly skilled company operating in a corporation or in an industrial capacity."

Like many other associated commando units, Umgeni Commando has taken part in Border operations on both the Northern Natal borders of Mozambique and in the arid SWA.

The role women play in the unit is by no means insignificant. Timeous clerical tasks are handled diligently, their medical sector is superior and the handling of signals is carried out with the utmost efficiency.

In the bush, members' knowledge of musketry and tactical procedures equal their driving ambition to become even more actively involved.

As a unit, future objectives are improved efficiency, increase in manpower, and to amplify what integration in a unit can achieve.

"With the increase in urban warfare--a fairly new concept in our society--a lot of our work involves constant planning and liaison with civilian authorities falling within our area of responsibility. Be it manning road blocks or protecting national key points the unit has a very definite purpose and important role to play within the community," says Cmdt Smith.

With objectives such as these, Umgeni Commando is destined to achieve greater recognition in years to come.

CSO: 3400/654

SOUTH AFRICA

KRUGERSDORP COMMANDO DESCRIBED

Pretoria PARATUS in English Vol 36 No 2, Feb 85 pp 14-15

[Text] Krugersdorp Commando which received the Freedom of Drugersdorp on 10 November 1984, was formed in the spring of 1898 during the Magato War as part of a punitive expedition against Chief Mpefu in the Northern Transvaal. Until then it had been a field cometship of the Pretoria Commando, but now it fought proudly as a unit under Frederik Potgieter, whose father was a nephew of the famous Andries Potgieter. His mother, Jannetjie Kruger, was a cousin of President Paul Kruger.

Frederik was born on the farm Hartbeesfontein in the Kurgersdorp district in 1857. He began his military career at the age of 16 in skirmishes against marauding tribes, fought in the First War of Independence in 1881 and became commandant of the district in 1895.

Comdt Potgieter played a big role in capturing Dr Leander Starr Jameson in the ill-fated attempt to conquer the Transvaal. He fought with great distinction in the Boer War, staying with his men although badly wounded in the chest at the Tugela.

In 1901 he became a magistrate but was taken as a prisoner of war to St. Helena. He was again imprisoned in 1914 for bitterly opposing the invasion of South West Africa, and he died on his farm Nooitgedacht in 1924.

In the Anglo-Boer War the Krugersdorp men were famous for their dogged resistance. The "Times History of the War in SA" describes them as the backbone of General De la Rey's troops in his campaigns in the Western Transvaal.

In Natal the commando was always in the thick of it. They were a brave rear-guard at Dundee, and a bulwark at Elandslaagte against the Gordon Highlanders when a small contingent died trying to save General Jan Rook and two field pieces.

In the crucial battle of Modderspruit, which determined the encirclement of Ladysmith, the Krugersdorpers, under Potgieter, stormed a kopple and, with murderous mauser fire, stopped an out-flanking movement under General French's

Fifth Lancers. Potgieter pursued the Lancers but was prevented from giving the coup de grace by an order from General Joubert. Later, in an armoured train engagement near Estcourt, Krugersdorp men took Winston Churchill prisoner.

Krugersdorpers also played a great part in capturing General Butler's artillery in the fine victory at Colenso, where Lt Freddie Roberts, only son of the British commander-in-chief, Lord Roberts, died in a heroic but hopeless attempt to recapture the guns.

Among the Krugersdorp heroes to emerge now were Captain Danie Theron, the legendary scout, Commandant Sarel Oosthuizen and Field Cornet Jan Kemp, both of whom later became generals. The British writer M. Davitt wrote of Theron: "He lies buried near the town which has probably contributed more heroes to the war than any other in the two republics."

On to Sploenkop where fittingly, the two officers Oosthuizen and Kemp remained on the mountain from where they and a handful of faithful men saw the British Army retreat back across the Tugela.

At Boschrand, 75 Krugersdorpers were among the last to leave when overwhelmed by a vastly superior force.

Then came the battle for Pietershoggte, in the Colenso Heights, and the finest feat of arms in the unit's history. Three fiery Irish regiments, the Iniskillings, the Dublin Fusiliers and the Connaughts, were twice beaten back although fighting with superhuman courage and backed by the biggest artillery barrage of the war. The men of Krugersdorp and Rustenburg, after seven days of fighting, stood firm with their wounded Comdt Potgieter. A few days later they were finally overwhelmed by massive forces and bayoneted as they stood upright in their trenches, stubbornly firing to the last.

The long guerrilla struggle followed, with Nooitgedacht a notable victory and Roodewal a depressing defeat after a brave fight. Even at the bitter end the Krugersdorpers told their spokesman, General Kemp, to vote against accepting the British terms. They were still in the field and resolved to die rather than lose their independence. But in spite of a defiant speech by Kemp, only six of the 60 Boer delegates voted to continue the fight, and peace came on 31 May 1902.

The modern Krugersdorp Commando carries a power of tradition in its shoulder flash, which features the revered Paardekraal Monument on a green background. This commemorates the historic gathering of the first outcry for independence, on 16 December 1880. Thousands of burgers, furious at British annexation under Shepstone, cast stones on a symbolic heap as they pledged to regain their freedom.

Krugersdorp Commando's most illustrious commander of the modern day was probably Lt Col Gert Roodt, who was OC from 1948 to 1950. A Special Service Battalion man, he commanded armoured reconnaissance units in the desert, was Director of Armour and Infantry at Defence HQ in 1941, and Chief of Staff to General Brink in 1943. In 1945 he became Chief of Staff to the Sixth Armoured Division in Italy.

In modern times this unit regularly sends men to the border and continues to co-operate with the police and civil authorities on day to day security tasks. In this way it upholds the country's Citizen Force Tradition, of which South Africa is justly proud.

Going Away Gong Presented to the Commando.

When he retired as OC, Comdt W. P. J. Rabe presented Krugersdorp Commando with a gong which will be used by the mess president at officers' and NCOs' dinners, and by the chairman at the commando's meetings.

Comdt Rabe, who commanded the unit for 10 years stretching from February 1974 to February 1984 wished to leave a useful memento commemorating his 42 years of service in the Defence Force. He joined the National Service Volunteers in 1942 and later moved to the Sixth Armoured Car Squadron.

In an interview he said the highlight of his career was becoming OC of a unit with such a long and colourful history as that of Krugersdorp Commando. "The command's history goes back to 1898. When I was appointed I could give a dinner party for all the unit's post-war officers commanding except one, who died."

The gong which he presented comprises of military items collected over many years. The gong itself is a 40 mm anti-aircraft shell casing from a shell fired at Oshikati in 1980. The framework consists of four bayonets. The bottom one was used on the short barrelled Lee Enfield ,303, also known as the Poena, and dates back to 1907. The top one was also a Poena bayonet used by the police in the old days. The left bayonet on the photograph was used on the Lee Enfield MK IV. The one used as the hammer was a successor to the one just mentioned, and had a screwdriver point. On the right is a R1 bayonet.

CSO: 3400/654

SOUTH AFRICA

TAIWAN FIRM TO SET UP FACTORY IN TRANSKEI

Port Elizabeth EVENING POST in English 28 Jan 85 p 2

[Article by Trevor Bisscker]

[Text]

THE giant Tatung company in Taiwan is to establish an electronics and electrical appliances factory in Transkei.

The project has been stalled by the management shake-up in the Transkei Development Corporation, which will have a half-share in the development.

"I cannot tell you more at this stage," Mr L C Chen, a vice-president of the company, told me in Taipei.

"The new TDC management will be coming here to see us and settle the schedule."

"We were visited by the Port Elizabeth party under the Mayor, Mr Ivan Krige, last November, but we explained to them that we are committed to Transkei."

The factory is expected to produce light electrical and electronic goods such as radios and tape decks.

"We would also like to

make TV sets, but we understand there is some restriction on the number of manufacturers allowed in South Africa," said Mr Chen.

If the Transkei venture proved successful and it was decided to expand in South Africa, Port Elizabeth would certainly be seriously considered as a factory site.

Mr Chen disclosed that Lesotho's sudden switch of political stance on Taiwan, when it opened diplomatic ties with Red China, had cost it the Tatung investment.

"The decision had already been taken to invest in Lesotho when they suddenly changed their allegiance and cut us out," said Mr Chen.

The Tatung company has 16 factories in Taiwan and trains its workers at its own college — the Tatung Institute of Technology.

CSO: 3400/653

SOUTH AFRICA

HI-TECH, AUTOMATION IMPACT ON JOBS EXAMINED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 27 Jan 85 p 13

[Article by Michael Chester]

[Text]

ONE of the main problems that haunts the National Manpower Commission is finding a compromise in the 20th century battle between manual labour and automation — a contest that, taken to extremes, becomes “picks and shovels versus the robots”.

The arguments about the wisdom of favouring labour-intensity or capital-intensity in planning new industrial strategies go on without pause, especially in South Africa because of its dismal productivity record and chronic shortages of skilled labour.

Dr Hennie Reynders, chairman of the National Manpower Commission, concedes the answers are elusive.

“Worldwide trends are proving it's nonsense to argue that high technology automatically means more unemployment misery”, he says.

“Hi-tech has proved its capability of creating more wealth by more efficiency — and more wealth means more consumer demand, which, in turn, keeps the production tracks running faster. The benefits can go on multiplying in a chain reaction.

“The problem in South Africa is that there have been too many temptations in the form of tax concessions to persuade industrial companies to turn to capital-intense projects, rather than depend on manual labour.

“Endless shortages of skilled labour have encouraged the trend.

“The tax benefits are now being whittled down, but we need to strike a fine balance in what degrees of emphasis should be shared by labour and capital.

“In a world that insists on competitiveness, you can't turn the clock back once you have embarked on hi-tech. That goes for South Africa in particular because of the high priorities we must put on economic growth to hold down unemployment.

“We need to find a balance — and it's impossible to find a simple solution.”

One practical example that the NMC lays out is a proposal that Government departments — setting a pace for the private sector as well — should insist, when tenders are invited for new projects, such as road construction or irrigation projects, that competitors spell out the cost and time variations of contracts tackled by alternative approaches.

“Let's take the example of extensive road repairs”, suggested one official. “One competitor may propose to make extensive use of manual labour — picks and shovels, if you like.

“That may be acceptable in a remote rural area on roads that are little used. Inside and nearer the towns, however, it may be necessary to take into account the time it will take and perhaps tremendous problems with traffic flows.

“It may be better economic sense to pay a bit more for technology and a faster job.

"Also to be taken into account is that the pick-and-shovel approach can often turn out to be very expensive. Then we have to weigh sociological as well as purely economic arguments."

The advantages of the pick-and-shovel approach in special circumstances, the commission feels, have been demonstrated in recent months by a programme in which it inspired Government departments to dip into their funds to finance temporary projects in rural areas with critical unemployment problems.

Without a lot of fanfare, the Government laid aside R27 million for a variety of projects that ranged from road building to dam construction.

The result: 40 000 new jobs were created with careful attention to ensuring the projects entailed lasting benefits to the local communities.

A special action committee created to encourage such projects intends going back to the Government for more cash to create more jobs to tide particular areas over

bad unemployment patches caused by the drought and the recession.

But there are many economists who warn that South Africa will hold back on high technology in favour of labour intensity at its peril.

"Consider the material progress of mankind", says Mr Hugh Farquharson, an economist at the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

"Each development in technique — whether sickle to scythe, sail to steam, horse to locomotive, steam to petroleum, clerks to computers — initially cost jobs in their thousands or millions.

"But they were simultaneously an essential part of the means of providing many more jobs than they displaced because by reducing costs and prices they encouraged consumer demand".

And if the country fumbles in moving into the hi-tech age?

"South Africa", he argues, "far from paying her way in the world, will become a not very significant peninsula of western Asia".

Black Man's Burden

Under-Educated black workers aged under 30 are hardest hit by unemployment in South Africa.

A count taken 18 months ago from the Current Population Survey showed that blacks accounted for 30 percent of the 550 000 recorded as unemployed.

Two-thirds of them never studied beyond primary school level, 21 per cent had no education or had gone no higher than standard one and 17 percent only got to standard two or three.

Only three in every 100 of the overall total of jobless blacks had stayed on to matric level.

And an analysis showed that nearly two in every three were under 30.

Teenagers accounted for 18 percent of the jobless and a stunning 42 percent of the total were aged between 20 and 29.

Females fared worst of all. The survey's overall rate of unemployment for blacks was 8,1 percent.

The rate for women was 13,5 percent. For men, it was 5,7 percent. Geography proved important. The overall unemployment rate in the PWV complex was 6,4 percent, but it rose to 12,2 percent in the Western Cape and peaked at 14,9 percent in the Eastern Cape.

SOUTH AFRICA

LAY-OFFS DOMINATE LABOR SCENE

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 11 Feb 85 p 4

[Article by Phillip van Niekerk]

[Text]

LAY OFFS continue to dominate the labour scene. Perhaps the major trend this year is the increasing number of mainly white middle-class employees finding themselves on the street.

For mainly black unskilled and semi-skilled workers the first wave of lay offs in the present slump was way back in 1982. For skilled workers the lay offs of the past few months are a whole new ball game.

In fact, precedents established by emerging unions, which have been negotiating and fighting court cases over lay offs for nearly three years, will, ironically provide some protection for the now-threatened workers with more skill.

This month the General Workers' Union managed in the industrial court to gain the interim reinstatement of an artisan employed by Dorbyl Marine in Cape Town.

In his judgement, Advocate P Roux used as a guideline the principles set out by Mr D P Ehlers, now president of the court, in the case of Shezi and others versus Consolidated Frame Corporation.

These were that there should be sufficient warning to the employee and his representatives; that the selection be made on the basis of fair criteria and under consideration of representations made by employee representatives on selection; and that the employee to be laid off should be consulted.

Mr Roux found that the company had summarily informed the worker, Mr Cyril Petersen, of his selection to be laid off without giving adequate warning to him nor the GWU.

This may have deprived them of the chance to look for options, such as short-time or reduced wages.

"A further principle which emerges from a failure to allow due prior representation is that equity and fairness should not only be applied but be seen to be applied," he found.

CSO: 3400/636

SOUTH AFRICA

LAID-OFF CAR MEN NOW TOTAL 11,000

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 31 Jan 85 p 17

[Article by Trevor Jones]

[Text] The number of workers laid off by motor manufacturers in under three years will climb to more than 11 000 after the Ford-Amcar merger.

Yesterday the two companies announced that Ford would move from Port Elizabeth to Pretoria.

Following the announcement there has been widespread speculation that more mergers are on the cards and that some manufacturers may even pull out of South Africa.

This would be another brutal blow to thousands of people in industries allied to motor manufacturing.

Last year an estimated 20 000 people in these satellite industries lost their jobs, as the motor manufacturers laid off 5 000 workers.

Early in 1982 the combined work-force of the manufacturers stood at just over 50 000.

In June 1982 Volkswagen laid off workers at its Uitenhage plant and Ford announced it would close its Port Elizabeth factories for three Mondays a month.

A month later the Standard Bank Review warned of an impending downturn in the motor industry.

But in July and August of 1982 sales were buoyant and the warning seemed premature.

Towards the end of the year Sigma, General Motors, Mercedes and even Toyota laid off staff.

Ford and General Motors began a four-day week.

By

Returning

By the end of 1982 retrenchments totalled 3 600.

Early in 1983 there were lay-offs at Eastern Cape plants. In January last year Ford retrenched 490 and Sigma announced that employees returning from the Christmas holidays would work a four-day week.

In the first three months of last year 2 000 people were laid off.

There was a rush for cars towards the middle of the year as many people scrambled to buy before GST went up to 10 percent.

In August Nissan laid off 244 and began a three-day week.

Amcar retrenched 330; General Motors 129; Leyland 100; Ford 425.

And Ford ceased production for a week.

In September and November General Motors did the same. Nissan stopped for a week in October.

In the three months to the end of October 3 000 people working for the motor manufacturers had lost jobs and a further 7 000 in satellite industries had been laid off.

As prospects for 1985 worsened Ford laid off 235 last November.

General Motors announced that its 2 500 employees would be on holiday for 7-1/2 weeks and that 320 would not return to work after the holiday.

Nissan retrenched 540.

In December, 280 Mercedes workers were laid off.

This year most workers have returned to shortened working weeks and thousands face a future in which further rationalisation and retrenchments loom large.

CSO: 3400/636

SOUTH AFRICA

SULLIVAN HAILS FORD-ANGLO DEAL AS BREAKTHROUGH

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 2 Feb 85 p 8

[Text]

ANTI-APARTHEID activists in the United States have welcomed the merger of Ford and Anglo American's motor interests in South Africa.

The Reverend Leon Sullivan, author of the non-discrimination Sullivan Principles for US business in South Africa, hailed it as a breakthrough.

Announcing details of the merger this week, Ford's vice-president responsible for South Africa, Mr Lindsey Halstead, said Ford would continue to conform to the Sullivan code.

He said: "We have advised the Rev Sullivan that Ford Motor Company will continue to be a signatory to the Sullivan Principles and that the South African

Motor Corporation intends to continue implementing its standards throughout the combined operations."

RICHARD WALKER reports from New York that the Rev Sullivan said yesterday: "If Anglo American adopts these principles, it will break new ground in dealing with the South African Government."

Anti-apartheid activists in the US see it as proof that Ford, America's second-biggest motor manufacturer, is responding to their pressure.

"We had to finally face the facts," said Mr William Broderick, Ford's director of international affairs. He said the company shared in enormous SA motor industry losses last year and

prospects remained bleak, with 11 car and 17 commercial vehicle makers fighting over the comparatively small and fragmented market.

Our Port Elizabeth correspondent reports that a Ford spokesman said yesterday the doomed Neave plant would not close until the end of the first quarter of next year. He added that there would be no retrenchments until then.

He said the Neave workforce included 1 550 hourly-paid and 200 salaried staff. Ford's total employment in Port Elizabeth was 5 104.

Mr David Hauck, a South Africa specialist with the US-based Investor Responsibility Research Centre, a non-partisan corporate

monitoring group, said yesterday that while US disinvestment pressures had not been a factor in Ford's decision, the economic constraints of apartheid had contributed.

"Many US companies have stayed in South Africa waiting for the black market to take off," he said. "It hasn't. Blacks simply haven't become the consumers everyone was hoping for."

He said that Ford's decision would not remove the firm from the disinvestment movement's lists.

"I am not aware of any State or city disinvestment legislation that lets companies off the hook if they own less than 50% of their South African subsidiaries."

CSO: 3400/636

SOUTH AFRICA

EFFORTS TO CREATE NEW JOBS EXAMINED

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 27 Jan 85 p 1

[Article by Jaap Boekkoi]

[Text] During the first two months of last year government and industry in the United States created 2,5 million new jobs, more than all the new jobs produced in the European Economic Community in 14 years.

At the same time South Africa was trying to create 57 000 new pick-and-shovel jobs.

With a workforce one-tenth the size of America's, South Africa should create at least a quarter of a million new jobs to equal the remarkable American record.

But nothing like this is planned, partly because job creation in the land of Uncle Sam is much more organised.

Under America's new Comprehensive Employment and Training Act, Washington stands to spend almost R100 000 million in seven years to retrain retrenched workers into other labour fields, while a private society spends another R50 000 million a year.

Retrenched Detroit car workers, for instance, are trained not for welfare, but for "workfare" in fields such as fire inspection, cookery instruction, computer terminal operation, cable TV techniques and teacher aids.

Like South Africa, the United States has also created jobs for school leavers in the pick-and-shovel field.

A hundred thousand of them will help maintain national parks, working to conserve and reclaim stripmined land.

Both here and in the United States the main factor in unemployment is the "skills barrier". While more than seven million Americans are still without jobs, there are still one million vacancies for skilled workers in many categories.

In South Africa, says a large Johannesburg employment agency, skilled workers "can get jobs at any time. We have a permanent shortage of them, but our only problem with them is that they often don't want to work in the sticks where the good vacancies exist."

Yet, by the end of this year South Africa may have up to five million unemployed, says Mr Chris Ball, deputy managing director of Barclays.

The official estimate of the Department of Manpower is 2,4 million unemployed by 1987.

"Our problem," as Professor Francis Wilson of the University of Cape Town sees it, "is evidence that the rate in the increase of jobs is below that of people coming on to the job market."

"Therefore we need a co-ordinated policy by government and private enterprise to create jobs."

"We now have nothing like the urgent and nationally co-ordinated drive by the public sector and private industry we had in the 1930s."

"That is partly, of course, because the victims of the depression then were voters."

Professor Wilson believes the Government should follow the example of Generals Hertzog and Smuts in the 1930s by initiating a public works programme, mostly for black workers.

"Such a programme should encourage rural construction and infrastructures, build new roads, lessen soil erosion, create new housing and water facilities."

"But many jobs in small businesses in South Africa are stifled in a thicket of law."

The managing director of the Small Business Advisory Bureau, Mr Ian Hetherington says that up to 80 percent of small business ventures, and therefore new jobs created by them, are defeated by Government red tape.

"In this way the Ciskel is ahead of us, having just passed a small business deregulation law for businesses employing 20 or fewer."

"In America most new jobs were created in the small business field, in services and franchises, often in the kind of luxuries affluent society with its discretionary money enjoys, but our needs for small businesses are more basic, such as for clothing, dressmaking, cooked foods, vegetable growing and transport. Why, for instance, take action against so-called illegal taxis in favour of subsidised Putco buses?"

The bureau says the best way to create new jobs is to free small businesses from Government red tape and encourage subcontracting.

This has created most of the new jobs in the US during recent years, especially in fields like computers (service, analysis and programming), fast foods, nursing and nursing aids, computer learning, sports instruction and health care.

The coming age of industrial robots, which in a Japanese five-year plan will reduce labour in assembly-line plants by half, will replace four million jobs in the US during the next 15 years, and such robots are already increasing by 35 to 45 percent a year. Labour unrest in South Africa will also hasten the planned use of robotics.

It is part of a new age with its own built-in unemployment crisis, when "smokestack" industry is being replaced by "flashing digit" industry, a process in which South Africa will inevitably follow the American experience.

Engineering a Great Future

Want to ensure that you will never join the ranks of the unemployed in South Africa, come this or any future recession? Want to enjoy good pay and status into the bargain?

If so, drop everything and become an engineer.

So says a new report brought out for the Federation of Societies of Professional Engineers which highlights such a scarcity of engineers that "for the foreseeable future there will be more than two jobs available for every young graduate engineer".

The report, drawn up by Dr Philip Lloyd and Professor Bob Plewman, says the direst shortages of engineers are especially in the fields of civil and heavy-current electrical engineering.

In civil engineering every student graduating in the late 1980s can expect to have a choice of more than three available jobs. Heavy-current electrical graduates will be in even more demand: each graduate will have four vacancies waiting for him.

Drs Lloyd and Plewman say that the supply of new engineers has grown from 850 to 1 250 during the past decade, part of it through immigrant engineers, varying between 30 percent and 10 percent since 1976. Yet the annual demand during the decade rose from 1 900 to 2 800.

CSO: 3400/636

SOUTH AFRICA

HIGHVELD STEEL TURNOVER SURGES

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 12 Feb 85 p 3

[Article by Brendan Ryan]

[Text]

HIGHVELD Steel and Vanadium's turnover surged by 60% in the year to December, but attributable earnings rose by only 18,5% to R26,489m from the previous year's R22,355m.

Earnings a share were 38,9c (1983 — 32,8c) and the final dividend has been increased to 11c (previous final — 10c) to make a total distribution for the year of 17c (previous total — 15c).

The group's turnover was a record R450,157m, compared with last year's R281,7m and an annualised figure of R357m for the 18 months to December 1982.

Hiveld's profit margins were reduced by increased depreciation and interest charges, strip mill commissioning costs, the group's product mix and the competitive markets for steel.

Group earnings during 1984 were also affected by the voluntary restraints undertaken on exports of steel to the US, as well as by Hiveld's policy to take forward currency cover on 50% of its export revenues.

The chairman, Mr Leslie Boyd, said yesterday: "We have been spending a lot of money on the plant, which means that our charges for depreciation have risen. These amounted to R33,5m in 1984, compared with R27m in 1983.

"We are still on a learning curve with the strip mill, but tonnages are going up every month and in January production from the

mill was the best we have ever had.

"The depreciation of the rand has meant that for the first time in five years we have been able to get back into the international market for steel semis, which has given us additional volumes.

"Steel production during 1984 ran at about 85% of capacity, while production of ferro-alloys and vanadium increased steadily during the year until, at the year-end, the Rand Carbide plant was running at full capacity, the Vantra division was at 90% of capacity, and Trans-Alloys had also reached 90% of capacity."

Mr Boyd said Hiveld expected to sell at least the same amount of steel on the export markets during 1985 which it had during 1984, if not more.

A problem for Hiveld was the state of the local market which, despite the group's perceived image as a major exporter, still accounted for 50% of Hiveld's business in 1984.

"Our view is that the first six months of 1985 will be difficult, but the last six months should show some improvement.

"The drop in domestic consumption has been aggravated by the rundown of inventory stocks, but I hope this will have run its course by the middle of the year," Mr Boyd said.

COMMENT: The market will be disappointed with Hiveld's bottom-line performance after the surge in turnover.

Ahead of the release of the results yesterday, the share shed 10c to close at 395c.

CSO: 3400/636

SOUTH AFRICA

ADMISSION OF BLACKS TO INDIAN SCHOOLS TO BE INVESTIGATED

Durban POST NATAL in English 30 Jan-2 Feb 85 p 3

[Text]

THE National Peoples' Party, the majority party in the House of Delegates, is investigating the question of admission of black pupils to Indian schools.

This was disclosed in the House this week by Mr Kassie Ramduth, Minister of Education and Culture for Own Affairs.

Speaking in the debate against a motion of no confidence in the Council of Ministers proposed by Solidarity, he said the matter was under investigation but gave no details.

He was asked by the Opposition what his attitude would be if blacks sought admission to Indian schools controlled by his department.

He said he was concerned that the standard of education was below that of whites and one of the steps to improve the position was the intro-

duction from this year of a M-plus four course (matriculation plus four years of teacher-training).

It was his department's intention to phase out the existing M-plus three course and a plan was being worked out to help lower-qualified teachers to further their training.

Mr Ramduth also announced that, at the request of the Indian community, he had appointed a committee to investigate the position of Indian staff at the University of Durban-Westville and he would appoint a commission of inquiry if his fact-finding committee recommended one.

He said that he had also requested time to be allotted on television to promote Indian culture and he was awaiting a reply from the relevant Minister.

CSO: 3400/545

SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE FISHING FIRMS TO DELIST

Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 2 Feb 85 p 8

[Article by Paul Dold]

[Text]

CAPE TOWN. — One of the best-known fishing groups, Kaap Kunene, and its diversified associate, Suiderland, with a market value of R93m, are heading for delisting.

The Du Preez and Neethling families, which hold control, are making a R45m cash offer to minorities.

The Kaap Kunene offer is being pitched at 420c and Suiderland at 130c. Suiderland owns some 38% of Kaap Kunene, which is well above the historic net asset value of around 398c and 108c, respectively.

In addition, holders of the 10% cumulative prefs in Kaap Kunene are being offered R1 a share.

Suiderland was suspended at 93c and Kaap Kunene at 310c. In view of poor prospects and limited tradeability of the two shares, minorities should leap at the offers.

A total of 1,3m Suiderland shares

and 724 000 Kaap Kunene shares were traded in 1984. Kaap Kunene's price ranged from a high of 435c to a low of 305c, and Suiderland's between 155c and 90c.

However, the proposed scheme of arrangement will probably cause in-depth analyses by brokers to see whether minorities are getting a good deal, a delisting of companies being a rare occurrence in Diagonal Street.

The Du Preez and Neethling families say the offer is being made because of the trend of the economy.

The fishing outlook appears far from bright, with Kaap Kunene catching only 13 000 tons of a 200 000-ton anchovy quota last year.

In addition, the Chilean investments have not performed as expected and fish exports to South Africa from Chile have been affected by the falling rand.

Suiderland, which has widespread interests, is feeling the downturn in the building industry.

The group is, however, negotiating with Armscor over compensation for land which was expropriated last year.

Major institutional shareholders have not yet been consulted on the offer. As the bid is being made through a scheme of arrangement, the controlling shareholders will not be voting their shares and minorities will have a free vote.

It is estimated that the offer will cost the Neethling and Du Preez families some R40m in cash, but this will be offset by the group's cash holdings, which vary during the fishing season and are probably between R20m to R30m.

What makes the bid intriguing is that with current high money market rates, this sum could easily yield a gross 20% plus, while Kaap Kunene is currently on a yield of only about 9%.

The share has weakened in line with the fishing sector and is close to 12-month lows.

CSO: 3400/636

SOUTH AFRICA

TAIWAN FIRMS SET PACE FOR CLOTHING EXPORTS

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 Feb 85 p 28

[Article by Don Robertson]

[Text]

A HANDFUL of Taiwanese clothing manufacturers operating from the Ciskei and Transkei are boosting South African exports.

These companies have international associations which give them an entry to foreign markets.

Mike Getz, president of the National Clothing Federation (NCF), says clothing industries based in South Africa face a grim future. The domestic market is falling, and the only way to maintain production and staff is to boost exports.

For several reasons, however, "garment exports are declining and the industry is at risk".

Clothing exports between January and September 1984 rocketed by 93% to R49,7-million from R25,7-million in the comparable nine months in 1983.

Frank Whitaker, executive director of the NCF, says the main contribution to the increase came from six companies operating from the Ciskei's Dimbaza and Mdantsani, near East London.

The ability of these companies to compete on the world market stems from concessions they receive for operating in a border industrial area. Among the concessions is R100 a month from the SA Government for each

employee. The Ciskei firms pay an average wage of about R60 a month, but South African wages are R220 to R240.

The border-area companies are also allowed to work three shifts a day.

Uphill

Mr Getz says: "I would settle for half the decentralisation benefits they receive."

Without these benefits, South African garment producers face an uphill battle. Mr Getz lists the problems:

- Considerably higher inflation than SA's trading partners.
- Interest rates consistently higher than those of competitors.
- A high tax rate.
- The high cost of domestic and imported raw materials.

He says: "Export incen-

tives do not compensate for our problems. Exporters require a signal from the Government to spur the export effort and allow us to be competitive."

He concedes that the Ciskeian exports are probably not taking away business from SA manufacturers.

Rising costs

But SA firms need exports if full advantage is to be taken of the economies of scale. The SA industry is worth about R1 500-million at factory level, equivalent to sales of about R3 000-million. Exports make up a small part of output.

The South Africa Foreign Trade Organisation is helping the export effort and is offering its services to companies.

Stewart Shub, chairman of Rex Trueform, says costs are rising and because of competition, margins are becoming thin. Although Christmas and January sales were good, the outlook for the rest of the year remains bleak.

Mr Getz says the industry looks well set until about Easter, "but it is difficult to predict further as the consumer is now buying closer to his needs".

SOUTH AFRICA

AGRICULTURAL EXPORT EARNINGS REPORTED

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 3 Feb 85 p 6

[Article by Ciaran Ryan]

[Text]

THE sickly rand will pull in an extra R225-million in agricultural export earnings this year than in 1984.

In spite a poor maize season, some farming sectors are doing well. Export crops, such as citrus and deciduous fruit, are expected to be worth 37% more this year purely because of the weak rand, although freight charges will reduce the profit.

Cyclone

Favourable climatic conditions mean that citrus exports will rise by 17% over 1984. A surplus of 150 000 tons of wheat is available for export this year. Last year South Africa was forced to import because drought scorched the crop.

South Africa will export about 28-million boxes — each weigh 15 kilograms — of fruit in 1985, mainly to Europe. Last season's exports were down to about 24-

million boxes because of drought and Cyclone Domoina.

Cameron McOnie, general manager of the Citrus Exchange, told Business Times: "There is good demand for South African exports because of bad harvests in Florida and Spain. Although prices haven't been settled, we expect export earnings to be 20% up on last year's R200-million."

Competitive

South Africa normally exports 60% of the citrus crop. Deciduous fruit, mainly grapes, apples and pears, exports are likely to exceed 25-million boxes which is on a par with 1984.

Louis Kriel, general Manager of the Deciduous Fruit Board, says export earnings are expected to be R420-million in 1985 compared with R360-million last year, largely as a result of the exchange rate.

South Africa's wheat surplus of 150 000 tons will probably be sold to neighbouring states, says Dennis van

Aarde, general manager of the Wheat Board.

"Our wheat is competitive for countries to the north. The landed price of imported maize is about R400 a ton compared with a domestic price of R280 a ton. So we can undercut overseas producers by a large margin."

Wheat exports of 150 000 tons at present prices will be worth R42-million.

Wool exports are expected to remain constant in volume terms but to increase in rands by 26%. Latest estimates from the Wool Board project exports of 25.3-million kilograms for 1985 — about the same as 1984. The receipts will be worth about R400-million compared with R317-million in 1984. Wool production is down by 2% on 1984 as a result of the drought.

But the exchange rate does not always work in favour of exporters, says Mr Kriel. "Shipping and promotional expenses must also be paid. The shipping charge for last year's deciduous fruit exports was R88-million and this year it will be about R130-million."

CSO: 3400/636

SOUTH AFRICA

SATS TIGHTENS GRIP ON PRIVATE ROAD HAULIERS

Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 Feb 85 p 5

[Article by Ciaran Ryan]

[Text]

SOUTH African Transport Services has been accused of engaging in unfair and monopolistic practices at the expense of private-sector carriers in an attempt to halt runaway annual losses by the railways.

Hauliers say the Railways Police are impounding freight trucks on an unprecedented scale.

The Transportation Board has been accused of withholding temporary permits from private hauliers because of objections by the railways.

Free market

Hauliers and transport experts want the permit system which regulates transport to be scrapped. They say it is being used to pressure suppliers into using rail instead of

road transport and betrays the Government's free-market stance.

Sats' share of the freight market is estimated at 55% and falling, mainly into the hands of road hauliers who are thought to have 35% of the market. At stake are billions of rands.

Sats' loss of market share is in spite of the fact that rail tariffs are less than half road rates. Experts say the end user places a high price on efficiency and the railways cannot compete.

Willie Nel, of the Railways Police, says: "We are not discriminating against anybody and there is no blitz on road hauliers. We are empowered to stop, check permits and impound trucks if there is good cause. Recent spot checks were purely routine."

Hauliers say temporary permits, required by all transporters not in possession of permanent ones, are seldom granted by the Road Transportation Board. Under

the Road Transportation Act a permit must be obtained for every item transported on every route.

Hauliers say the permit system is strangling exports to neighbouring states and endangering trade of about R900-million annually.

One haulier says: "We are not competing with the railways. We transport emergency supplies to black Africa — food and fuel — and these are required at short notice. Unless the cargo can be delivered quickly the order is given to another country."

Law-breakers

"Withholding permits from hauliers does not mean the business then goes to the railways. It means South Africa loses exports."

Leon Calitz, manager of Transport International Pool, says: "We are being forced to break the law because we are not granted permits. We have to pay our

rent even if it means carrying cargo without a permit."

Ronnie Meyer, deputy director general of the Department of Transport Services, replies: "When the Transportation Board considers a permit application to transport a commodity to Botswana, for instance, it must look at the service available."

Study

"If the railways operate on this route they have a claim to transport the goods. The huge capital expenditure by the railways, often in areas where nobody else was willing to operate, must be financed."

One haulier, who would not be named, told Business Times: "It is the prerogative of the supplier to nominate his transporter. Nowhere else in the world is there this level of official interference in the transport industry. This is a matter of national importance."

SOUTH AFRICA

BRIEFS

RUSTENBERG PLATINUM MINE--Johannesburg Consolidated Investments' giant Rustenburg Platinum Mine, which straddles the border between South Africa and Bophuthatswana, has found itself torn between two diverging labour systems. The mine's anomalous situation came to the fore this week when it signed a recognition agreement with the black Federated Mining Union (FMU), which is based in South Africa. The agreement covers the mine's approximately 4 500 black surface workers on the South African side of a border which zig zags arbitrarily past shafts and living quarters. On the Bophuthatswana side, the FMU is banned in terms of the territory's Industrial Conciliation Act. Four of Rustenburg's shafts are in South Africa, while two and the main administration buildings are in Bophuthatswana. Underground, the workings weave back and forth across the border and signs have been put up to inform miners when they are entering or leaving Bophuthatswana. Thus, while it has been relatively easy to establish which workers can belong to the FMU on the surface, no criterion has yet been established for those working underground. RPM's consulting engineer, Mr Bruce Sutherland, said the company was waiting for the authorities to agree on whether the actual point of work or the location of the shaft where staff went down should determine whether a worker was in South Africa. On the Bophuthatswana side, RPM has been approached for access rights by the Bophuthatswana National Union of Mine Employees (Bonume), a union set up in the wake of the territory's new labour laws. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 1 Feb 85 p 2]

NEIGHBORING ECONOMIES--South Africa's neighbours face a "discouraging" time in trying to rejuvenate their economies, says the executive director of the Manpower and Management Foundation of Southern Africa, Mr John Burns. World trade has declined in recent years through falling demand for developing countries' primary products and commodities, either through synthetic substitution or increased production in industrialised countries. Mr Burns told a meeting in Pietersburg: "This picture of world trade, coupled with Western disillusionment regarding aid to the Third World, is not a good background on which to build a resilient South African economy to interact profitably with the rest of the world." He said SA could help its neighbours both through its own efforts and by channelling aid from other sources. "Perhaps the primary role for SA in the economic development of Southern Africa is to make its sophisticated banking and financial systems, its well-established communications infrastructure and its technology and other expertise available to

the more powerful countries who are prepared to use South Africa as the spring-board for their participation in economic development." [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 5 Feb 85 p 6]

MARKET SURVEYS--Market Research Africa will do more than 20 surveys, including at least 22 000 field interviews among all race groups, this year. Its Omni-jet surveys will cover adults of all races, Omnimetro metropolitan blacks, and Omnibrand black and white housewives. A statement by the company says its studies are used by the Bureau for Economic Research and many advertising agencies, manufacturers and service companies. "Clients can get representative coverage, at a low cost per question, and this is ideal when only a few questions are needed to solve a problem." MRA advises that questions should be submitted by the third week of the month preceding the relevant survey. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 11 Feb 85 p 5]

SUGAR OUTPUT--Durban--The C G Smith group of companies has passed the impressive figure of 1-million tons of sugar produced in a season--reputedly the first such achievement by any one organisation in the free world sugar history. Mr Bas Kardol, the executive chairman of C G Smith, said yesterday the figure had been reached through the combined outputs of his group's Natal-based cane sugar companies and its US-based beet-growing, Monitor Sugar company. "The Cubans and Russians, being communist countries, do not have a company structure as we know it and some coalition of nationalised mills may have matched us, but not a free enterprise company," Mr Kardol said. Monitor Sugar's contribution this season betters 54 000 tons, which is above this producer's average of about 50 000 tons. The six mills that make up C G Smith Sugar--Pongola, Gledhow, Noodsberg, Illovo, Sezela and Umzinkulu--will produce over 965 000 tons this season. The previous best by the group was in the 1982-83 season when some 822 000 tons was achieved. Last season--the drought season--the six mills did not reach 650 000 tons. Four of the six mills achieved record productions, with the giant Sezela mill topping 265 000 tons--the highest ever by a South African mill and, in the words of Mr Kardol, "A welcome endorsement of the R55m expansion programme recently completed at Sezela." Three of the group's South Coast mills also rank among the four leaders in the industry in terms of recovery percentages. [Text] [Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 8 Feb 85 p 3]

VINYL ALLOY EXPORTED--Ready to give a big boost to exports of hand tools is a South African-developed vinyl acrylate alloy called Tuga. The alloy, created by AECI and the Metkor group's TW Tools, is used extensively in various RW hand tools and even builders' hawks. It comes at about half the price of imported polymers. Roy Banks, technical manager of RW tools, says the Tuga Project started as a close look at screwdrivers, of which RW Tools was a major manufacturer. "It was apparent that not a lot could be done about the blade and manufacturing process, and the emphasis fell on the handle, which makes up about 65 percent of the screwdriver's cost. Of that, about 40 percent is the cost of the material, generally cellulose acetate or cellulose acetate butyrate. "With the plastics industry showing such tremendous advancement, I approached AECI on helping to develop a new material for handles. After 18 months of research Tuga was born." The material is characterised by extreme toughness and scratch-resistance, combined with good impact strength, low moisture-

absorption and ease of processing. Possible uses include kitchen-utensil handles, electrical products, fishing gear and shoe heels. [Text] [Johannesburg THE SUNDAY STAR in English 10 Feb 85 p 3]

MEALIE CROP SECRECY--Nobody is sure whether South Africa will need to import maize this year. The National Maize Producers Organisation (Nampo) projects a crop of between 5,5-million and 6-million tons, enough for domestic consumption. But the Maize Board will make no forecast. The reason is that talk of South Africa seeking orders on the international grain market would send prices soaring. General manager of the Maize Board Hennie Nel says the projected size of the maize crop is a "military secret" as far as he is concerned. This fuels speculation that South Africa will have to import maize. Three weeks ago the South African Agricultural Union estimated imports of about 1-million tons at a cost of \$410-million. Nampo's chairman, Piet Gouws, says SA may not need to import maize because the white mealie crop for human consumption is expected to satisfy demand of 3,2-million tons. [Text] [Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 Feb 85 p 1]

SOEKOR OFFSHORE DRILLING--Sedco-K--The American oil rig hired by Soekor--has anchored seven kilometres off the beach from Kini Bay, near Port Elizabeth, and is to start drilling for oil and gas this week. It has been confirmed that the rig is to stay there for the next six to eight weeks. Excited Kini Bay residents phoned the Evening Post to say the monster rig, with two tugboats by its side, had anchored "right under our noses" and had not moved since Thursday. Mr Tony Robinson, a Port Elizabeth businessman and one of several retired people who live in the secluded "suburb-by-the-sea", told of his surprise when the rig appeared "slap bang in front of my home". In an interview in Johannesburg today, Soekor's liaison officer, Mr Mike Liebbrandt, warned against misinformation leading to land speculation and the creation of false hopes of an oil or gas strike on Port Elizabeth's doorstep. He said the rig was one of several in the area between Port Elizabeth and Mossel Bay and that there had been a lot of drilling already in the area, though mostly about 90 kilometres from the shore. "Drilling is always a big gamble. You might find gas, you might find oil--and you might find nothing," he said. The drilling operation is to be conducted under tight security with only two people, Mr Liebbrandt and the managing director of Soekor, Dr P J van Zijl, being permitted to deal with the Press. All Mr Liebbrandt would say was the rig was anchored "unusually close to the shore". He was not in a position to provide information about the geological potential of the ground under the rig. Drilling would start almost immediately in order to reach a standard depth of four kilometres, he said. Mr Liebbrandt said Soekor was "holding thumbs" for a Cabinet decision in June permitting production at holes where gas had been found near Mossel Bay. The Government was scrutinising reports on the finds and studies of their possible viability. [Text] [Port Elizabeth EVENING POST in English 4 Feb 85 p 1]

TOP-LEVEL TALKS WITH BOTSWANA---Talks between a top-level Botswana delegation and the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, are taking place in Pretoria. The Botswana delegation is headed by the minister of foreign affairs, Dr Gaositwe Chiepe, and includes the defense minister, Mr (Fonanchego Felikenwe) [title as heard]. Our Pretoria staff reports that, although no details of the talks have been released beforehand, they apparently deal with objections by South Africa and Bophuthatswana that ANC terrorists have been involved in border incidents since September of last year. Today's talks follow a meeting in Maseru [as heard] yesterday between the ANC leader, Oliver Tambo, and President Quett Masire of Botswana. [Text] [Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 22 Feb 85 MB]

CSO: 3400/638

SWAZILAND

POLITICS PROFESSOR TOLD TO RESIGN

Durban DAILY NEWS in English 24 Jan 85 p 3

[Text]

MBABANE: Swaziland University Professor John Daniel, head of the department of political studies, has been asked to resign, possibly because of what the authorities say is his students' "unhealthy preoccupation with the ANC".

The request was made yesterday by the University Council which also asked Assistant Registrar Chief Dambuza Lukhele for his resignation.

Sources at the university said the council gave no official reason for the request.

However, a report published this month on disturbances and activities at the university, said that students had "an unhealthy preoccupation with the aims,

objectives and philosophies of the African National Congress."

Prof Daniel was reported to have told the commission which wrote the report that the students in his department did have a particular interest in developments in South Africa because of that country's proximity.

There is speculation here that the authorities held Prof Daniel responsible for the students' active interest in the ANC.

It is not clear why Chief Lukhele was asked for his resignation although he was detained under the 60-day detention laws two years ago. No reasons were given for his detention.

CSO: 3400/626

ZAIRE

BRIEFS

KENYA HOLDING LUMUMBA'S SON--A young man said to be the son of the late Patrice Lumumba, the first Prime Minister of the Congo (now Zaire) is being held at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport since Saturday, the Nation confirmed yesterday. According to officials of Ethiopian Airlines which flew the 29-year-old Mr Lumba [as published] Anniry to Nairobi on Saturday morning, the young man, who holds a Yemeni passport, was to connect a flight to Lilongwe. The Ethiopian Airlines flight touched down at around 11.40 a.m. on Saturday, and there was no immediate flight to Lilongwe. "He did not have a visa to enter Kenya. When he could not get one, he wanted to get in by force", said the airline official. The facts were confirmed by an official in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who said the young man was very rude when immigration officials questioned him. "He was even very violent and wanted to get into the country. He was told to wait in the transit lounge but all in vain...even this morning, he was very violent", the official told the Nation. He said the young man either missed his flight or booked wrongly. "Since he was not coming here to enter our country, the problem was created by the man himself," the official stated. The Principal Immigration Officer, Mr Milton ole Ncharo, said the young man "is just a traveller like any other. He requires to provide travel documents plus a visa. He is not allowed into the country because he has no visa. Reports reaching the Nation last night said Mr Anniry had been provisionally booked on the Air Malawi flight scheduled for Wednesday. When contacted, the Zairean Embassy Press attache told the Nation: "We are not aware but since you are informing me, I will check. We operate within the Kenya laws," he said. [Joseph Karimi] [Text] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 15 Jan 85 p 20]

ZAIRIANS FLEE TO TANZANIA--DAR ES SALAAM, Thursday--A large number of Zaireans have fled into Tanzania following clashes last November between dissidents and security forces in the Zairean town of Moba on Lake Tanganyika, Tanzania's state-owned news agency, Shihata, reported yesterday. A senior official in the Home Affairs Ministry was quoted as saying the refugees had poured into the Kigoma and Rukwa regions and would be sent, after screening, to a refugee centre at Tabora, about 800 kilometres west of here. Their number would be disclosed after it was established how many were eligible for asylum, said the official, who was not identified. Last March, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees said Tanzania was providing shelter for 5.7 million refugees of various nationalities. The Zaire Embassy here said it has not been informed of the influx. Zambia has reported that 400 Zairean refugees have entered

its northern province of Luapula since November from Zaire's neighbouring Shaba Province. [Text] [Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 4 Jan 85 p 10]

PASSPORT CHANGE NOTED--[Seal]--Embassy of Zaire, Lusaka--Communique to the Zairean Nationals Living in Zambia: "The Executive Council of the Republic of Zaire has changed the model of the Zairean passports. All Zaireans living in Zambia are requested to come to the embassy of Zaire in Lusaka to surrender their old passports and to fill in the forms to constitute a file for a new passport. Embassy of Zaire in Lusaka [Advertisement] [Text] [Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 15 Jan 85 p 2]

CSO: 3400/490

ZAMBIA

PARLIAMENT DISCUSSES PRESS MANAGEMENT, CENSORSHIP

MB220730 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 22 Feb 85

[Text] A member of parliament has expressed concern at the apparent insecurity of editors-in-chief at the TIMES OF ZAMBIA, since the party took over the paper, charging that the situation has dampened the morale among staff. Chifubu Member of Parliament Godrefy Simasiku said in parliament yesterday that since National Holdings started running the paper in 1982, one editor-in-chief had lost his job, and another had been demoted.

Mr Simasiku criticized the present arrangement under which the TIMES editor-in-chief is answerable to the general manager of Print-Pak, saying it has reduced its status, hence affecting its freedom. He said that editors-in-chief were answerable to the board of directors. The member, who was contributing to the estimates of expenditure for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Services, said as a result of the unsatisfactory running of the paper, reputable people like Mr Vernon Mwaanga and Mr (John Nuskuma) had resigned from the TIMES Board of Directors, thereby depriving the paper of experienced hands.

Mr Simasiku said the frequent changes in the paper's editors had affected the paper's prestige, adding that not long ago the TIMES ranked among the best newspapers in Africa.

Contributing to the same debate, Mongu Member of Parliament Munukayumbwa Sipalo challenged the minister of information and broadcasting services, Mr Cosmas Chibanda, to come up with a policy statement on whether there is no veiled censorship of news in both country's newspapers and radio and television.

Mr Sipalo said he was convinced that news censorship was rife in Zambia, because certain statements made publicly by leaders did not appear in newspapers, nor were heard on radio and television.

Mr Sipalo also called for improvement of transport allocations for journalists, saying at the moment reporters had to walk long distances to collect news. He also called for an improvement in the format of provincial newspapers, which at the moment often carried stale news.

CSO: 3400/641

ZAMBIA

UNIONS CALL FOR LABOR MINISTER'S REMOVAL

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 23 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] TRADE unions representing workers in the public service have accused Labour and Social Services Minister Mr Frederick Hapunda of alleged poor labour relations and have demanded his immediate removal.

Leader of the four unions--Civil Servants Union of Zambia (CSUZ), National Union of Public Service Workers (NUPSW), Zambia United Local Authorities Workers Union (ZULAWU) and the Zambia National Union of Teachers (ZNUT) also endorsed the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) stand to seek legal redress against the Government's intention to revoke workers' subscriptions to unions whenever members went on strike in future.

In a statement issued after their meeting in Lusaka yesterday, the leaders of the unions charged that Mr Hapunda had "lamentably" failed to execute his functions as Minister of Labour and Social Services.

They said the minister had displayed poor labour relations especially towards trade unions.

He was also accused of allegedly failing to understand and execute the functions of the Industrial Relations Act. "Because of his failure to play the role of arbitrator or mediator, the unions attribute the present spate of industrial unrest in the country to him. The unions have also attributed the ministry's failure to act as a bridge between management and employees to him," the statement said.

The labour leaders who signed the statement are Mr Holosi Mapempe, CSUZ general secretary; Mr Ndawa Soko ZULAWU general secretary; Mr Albert Chibale ZNUT general secretary; and Mr Willie Mbewe general secretary of NUPSW.

The labour leaders demand for Mr Hapunda's removal is a culmination of industrial unrest stemming from workers' demands for K50 salary increments.

CSO: 3400/534

ZAMBIA

TRADE UNIONS SEEK REDRESS OVER SUBSCRIPTION ISSUE

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 22 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] THE Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) is to seek legal redress against a move by the Government to revoke workers' subscriptions to trade unions whenever members stage strikes in future.

ZCTU general secretary Mr Newstead Zimba said in Kitwe yesterday that the decision by the Minister of Labour and Social Services Mr Frederick Hapunda announced in the Government Gazette at the weekend was illegal because only the President was empowered to nullify an Act of Parliament.

At a Press briefing Mr Zimba charged that to revoke dues to unions because of strikes contradicted the practices of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) of which Zambia was a member.

He was reacting to the statutory instrument published in the special Government Gazette on Sunday that under section 20 of the Industrial Relations Act any deductions shall be revoked and become null and void "from the day when a trade union for the benefit of which such an order is made, goes on an illegal strike whether official or unofficial."

Mr Zimba said the minister did not understand the purpose and circumstances of section 20 of the Industrial Relations Act which had nothing to do with the conditions Mr Hapunda had "invented in his statutory instrument."

The union dues could only be revoked if the union had ceased to represent sufficient members.

"The minister's decision is illegal, we will seek legal redress because accepting the situation could subject the workers to the worst industrial dictatorship in a democratic country.

"As a member of the United Nations, Zambia subscribes to article 8 of the international covenants on human rights which entitles every worker the right to trade union membership.

He said trade unions in Zambia had never created a national crisis to warrant this treatment from the minister.

ZCTU understood the decision by President Kaunda to ban essential workers in the medical field from striking because of their sensitive moral operations.

But the presidential order could not have been necessary had it not been for the lamentable failure by the Ministry of Labour and Social Services to work on the list of essential service sectors as directed by the President in June 1980.

"The trade union leadership understands in great depth the presidential order under the Preservation of Public Security Act according to constitutional powers conferred on the President.

"But for the minister to fail to understand the purpose and circumstance of section 20 of the Industrial Relations Act which has nothing to do with the conditions he invented in his statutory instrument, is subject to explanation to us," he said.

The labour movement had not glorified strikes of any kind which was why labour leaders had gone all out to explain to their members the unlawfulness of their protest.

The recent strikes had been prompted by sporadic increases of prices of essential goods.

ZCTU had no option but to demand wage increases of up to K50 for workers. But the labour movement had made it clear that the demand was negotiable and depended on the ability of the employer to pay.

When contacted for a comment in Lusaka yesterday, Mr Hapunda said through his secretary that he was not "yet ready to talk to newsmen".

CSO: 3400/534

ZAMBIA

GOVERNMENT PASSES MEASURES TO CURB STRIKES

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 21 Jan 85 p 1

[Text] PRESIDENT Kaunda has banned medical personnel from going on strike with immediate effect.

The President said in a special Government Gazette issued yesterday that every junior resident medical officer, senior resident medical officer, registrar, senior registrar, consultant, paramedical, midwife, nurse or any other person employed by the Government or the University of Zambia in the medical field "is hereby ordered to remain in and continue such employment at his or her usual place of work".

Dr Kaunda who has been obviously prompted by the recent go-slow action and strikes by doctors and medical personnel demanding salary increments and improved conditions of service, says these workers should carry out their duties in accordance with conditions of service including those relating to hours and schedules of duties prevailing before December 27, unless otherwise directed by the director of medical services.

The President says in the Gazette:

"It is also hereby notified for public information that under regulation 37(5) of the same regulations, any person who, without lawful excuse, the proof of which lies on him fails or neglects to comply with any order or direction or prevents, obstructs or interferes with any person in the performance of any such order or direction shall be guilty of an offence under that regulation."

The presidential order includes anybody employed by the Government or Unza in connection with any health, hospital or ambulance service.

Gripped

Of late, the nation has been gripped by a spate of go-slow actions and strikes by junior doctors and other medical personnel at the University Teaching Hospital, Ndola and Kitwe Central hospitals including some health centres in rural areas demanding improved conditions of service.

In another move, Minister of Labour and Social Services Mr Frederick Hapunda has revoked the Trade Union (deductions of subscriptions) Regulation, 1985 in terms of section 20 of the Industrial Relations Act.

Mr Hapunda in yesterday's supplement to the Gazette says under this section, any deductions made shall be revoked and become null and void "from the day when a trade union, for the benefit of which such order is made, goes on an illegal strike whether official or unofficial".

During the past weeks there have been strikes by members of the National Union of Public Workers, Zambia United Local Authorities Workers Union (ZULAWU) and Teachers in some cases, demanding the K50 salary rise.

Last Friday Mr Hapunda expressed Government concern over the current wildcat strikes by workers in the public service and said the action was intended to hold the authorities to ransom.

The minister said this when he met leaders of four trade unions representing workers in the public service--ZULAWU, Zambia National Union of Teachers (ZNUT), the Civil Servants Union of Zambia (CSUZ) and the National Union of Public Service Workers (NUPSW) at his office.

He told the unionists that deaths at the UTH and "any other hospital for that matter" were not "something to smile about".

He was referring to people who died as a result of the doctors' go-slow action and strikes by other medical personnel in hospitals in Lusaka and the Copperbelt.

CSO: 3400/534

ZAMBIA

CIVIL SERVANT PAY RAISE APPROVED

Lusaka TIMES OF ZAMBIA in English 29 Jan 85 p 1

[Article by Mike Ngoma]

[Text] PUBLIC service workers have finally won salary rises of up to K30 from the K50 a month demanded by four national unions representing them following protracted negotiations with the Government.

The deal brings to an end six months of negotiations by the Government and the four unions over the K50 demand by the Zambia Congress of Trade Unions (ZCTU) last August to reduce economic burden imposed on workers as a result of the high cost of living.

Speaking shortly after the meeting with Government officials in Lusaka yesterday, spokesman for the Zambia United Local Authorities Workers Union (ZULAWU), the Zambia National Union of Teachers (ZNUT), the Civil Servants Union of Zambia (CSUZ) and the National Union of Public Service Workers (NUPSW), Mr John Mbewe said the increases would first have to be ratified by the Prices and Incomes Commission.

Mr Mbewe who is vice-chairman of the CSUZ and was flanked by ZNUT general secretary Mr Albert Chibale said the effective date of the package deal was November 1, 1984.

"Negotiations have come to an end in that the four national unions which have been negotiating have agreed on these terms of offer," he said.

The deal had been divided into four categories with the lowest paid public servants getting K30 and the highly paid getting K15.

"The second lowest paid group will get K25 while the other group will get K20," he said.

Mr Mbewe hoped the Government would implement the package deal with full speed and appealed to members to exercise patience.

Asked how the four unions felt on their failure to clinch K50 they had been demanding, Mr Mbewe said in negotiations it was not possible to get what one was asking for.

The breakdown had been worked out in four categories in the spirit of narrowing the gap between the lowly and highly paid.

"These are economic figures because the Government could not have paid us what we had demanded from them. The K50 was negotiable."

He expected that the payment of the new package deal would be effected between March and April depending on the amount of workload.

The four unions had signed a collective agreement with Government which would last for two years.

But he said while the four unions were happy with the terms they were free to enter into fresh negotiations on conditions of service affecting their members.

"Hence we are appealing to all members of the four unions to wait for a peaceful implementation of their salaries and wages."

The Government team was led by Ministry of General Education and Culture permanent secretary Mr Miles Banda while permanent secretary for Personnel Division Mr Vincent Malauni was chairman during the talks

The stalemate in negotiations resulted in the union calling for the urgent removal of Minister of Labour and Social Services Mr Frederick Hapunda whom they accused of having poor labour relations and fanning industrial strife in Zambia.

The call by the four unions was a culmination of widespread wild-cat strikes involving doctors, clinical officers, council workers and other civil servants.

The workers involved were demanding the K50 pay increase, better conditions of service and an urgent review of their salary structures.

Junior doctors at the University Teaching Hospital (UTH), Ndola and Kitwe Central Hospitals went on go-slow having been angered by a statement by Minister of Health Mr Mark Tamba-tamba who said their conditions could not be reviewed separately from that of other civil servants.

CSO: 3400/534

ZIMBABWE

GROUP PLOTTING MILITARY VENTURE

Durban THE DAILY NEWS in English 12 Feb 85 p 8

[Text]

HARARE: A group calling itself the Rhodesian Veterans' Association (RVA) has linked up with South Africa to plot the military destabilisation of Zimbabwe it has been claimed here.

The Ziana news agency reporting an official of the International Society for Strategic Studies (Africa), said the group included a number of prominent former Rhodesians. Former Senator Father Arthur Lewis, a right-wing cleric, and runaway Conservative Alliance MP Mr Denis Walker, are cited as being members of the RVA.

According to the society, the RVA is on an intensive campaign to recruit mercenaries for service in Southern Africa.

The directors of the association are alleged to be John Coleman and Tim Carmody, both former soldiers with the Rhodesian Light Infan-

try (RLI). The men are said to have flown to South Africa late last year and held discussions with Mr John Reid, of the Border Development Association. The International Society for Strategic Studies (Africa) claims that Mr Reid is a "military specialist in psychological operations and deception schemes."

The veterans' association and Mr Reid's organisation "conspired to put into operation" a South Africa Government plan to finance a "border development scheme" said the news agency report.

However, it claimed the scheme was a "South African Government effort to threaten the Government of Zimbabwe and terrorise Zimbabwe's black border farms."

According to the International Society for Strategic Studies (Africa) Father Lewis has been contributing articles to

the RVA's newsletter in which he urges members to recruit mercenaries to join dissidents and "overthrow the Mugabe Government".

Mr Denis Walker is alleged to be the association's London representative.

Another RVA member, Mr Bob Holloway, has developed a 7,62mm combat rifle and hopes to show it at the association's annual reunion in London later this year, according to the allegations. A number of invitations have been sent to "prominent whites" in Zimbabwe to attend the reunion, Ziana reported the Strategic Study Society as saying.

It is known that a former American Vietnam veteran, Mr Coleman, served in the RLI from 1977 until just before independence. A recipient of a number of US military decorations, Mr Coleman was badly wounded in a clash with guerrillas while serving with the RLI.

CSO: 3400/653

ZIMBABWE

POACHERS COSTING NATION MILLIONS

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 3 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Zimbabwe is losing several millions of dollars each year through poaching and the Government has embarked on a massive awareness campaign to combat the crime.

The Ministry of National Resources and Tourism, through the Department of National Parks and Wild Life Management, is using a huge chunk of the department's budget in the anti-poaching war.

It is seeking to instil into the public the knowledge that poaching is an anti-social, wasteful exercise done for purely selfish commercial reasons and to dispel the notion that poachers are merely "naughty".

National Parks director Dr Graham Child told The Sunday Mail last week that poachers were criminals and should be treated as such.

He said poaching in Zimbabwe in particular and Africa in general was on the increase and was a cause for concern in many African states.

"I believe that wildlife offers drought-prone Africa one of the few opportunities of picking itself up by the bootstraps," he said. "These poachers are undermining that capacity. Millions of dollars are being milked out of Africa every year."

At a meeting in Brussels last June African countries attending the implementation of CITES, the Conference on Illegal Trade in Endangered Species, expressed concern at increasing illegal trafficking of ivory from Africa.

"In recent years some 800 to 850 tonnes of ivory worth an estimated US\$52-55 million have been entering international trade each year. It is clear from the evidence available that a high proportion of this revenue is being diverted from the governments and people of the producer countries through the illegal trafficking of ivory," the countries said in a joint declaration.

They added: "The unacceptable situation can be controlled only through the affected governments separately and jointly devoting adequate resources to

the conservation of this valuable economic resource and to measures preventing the losses in foreign currency that result from the entry of ivory into illegal trade."

For Zimbabwe one of the biggest poaching problems is fish poaching according to Dr Child. He said the Sabi-Lundi river system had been "totally fished out", and the department was insisting that fishermen fish the hard way-- with rod and line instead of with nets. This was, however, being resisted.

He said poachers in general were very determined criminals who were sometimes quite dangerous. "They will use anything to get what they want. We've had several chaps hurt and two killed since independence."

He said poachers were wantonly killing animals without regard to the community, which could benefit greatly from wildlife conservation.

"The poacher is making it impossible to develop a rational way of using wildlife and he's doing it for purely anti-social, selfish reasons...he is a straight crook."

While most poachers, when caught, claimed to be feeding a hungry family, "we know from a huge volume of evidence that 99,9 percent of poaching in this country is commercial", said Dr Child.

Most local poachers were paid by "big guys"--some who might not even be in Zimbabwe, he said. The department was therefore tackling the problem at grassroots, middlemen and "entrepreneur" poacher levels.

But because of a certain sympathy towards poachers by peasants, it was sometimes difficult to catch them. Dr Child said his department was going to be teaching people that the poacher was not a "Robin Hood" or someone who was merely naughty, while at the same time teaching them the benefits of wildlife.

CSO: 3400/653

END